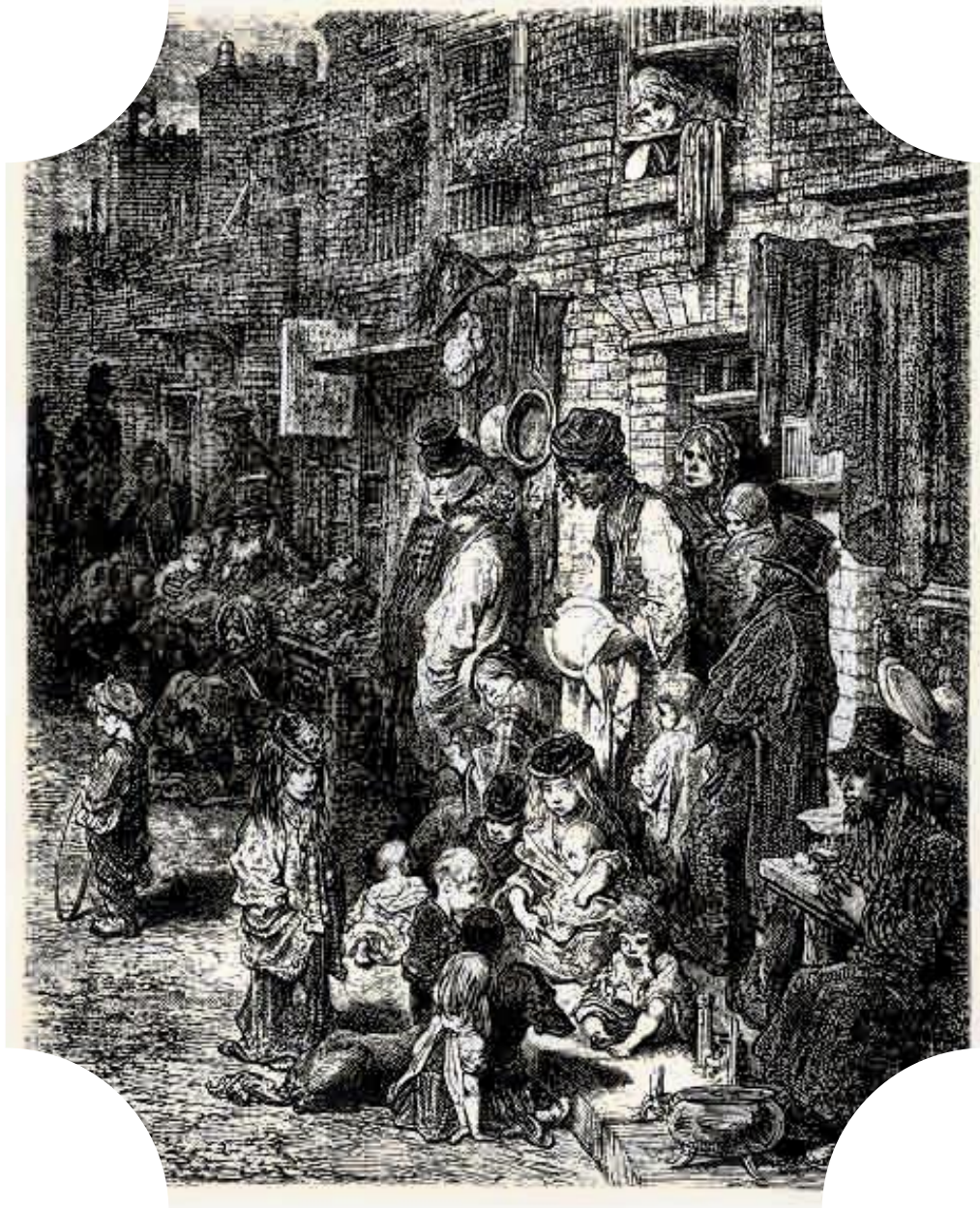


JACK THE RIPPER JACK THE RIPPER JACK THE RIPPER JACK THE RIPPER JACK THE RIPPER JACK THE RIPPER

Jig & Saw

*This work is dedicated to the victims
Known and unknown*



If official information is not corroborated by evidence
then it cannot be taken as actual accounts

This work was written under a reasonable doubt based upon reason and common sense, arising out of some or all of the evidence that has been presented -or lack or insufficiency of the evidence as the case may be- on the “Jack the Ripper” murders. The official police files used, gathered by retired police officer Stewart P. Evans and professional researcher and genealogist Keith Skinner, ¹ are the main sources for our research. Newspaper reports have been consulted. None copyrighted material from Websites have been referenced. All images used are in the [public domain](#).

¹ Stewart P. Evans & Keith Skinner, *The Ultimate Jack the Ripper Sourcebook: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*. (London: Constable & Robinson Ltd., 2000).

INTRODUCTION

“The year 1888 (MDCCCLXXXVIII) was a leap year starting on Sunday of the Gregorian calendar and a leap year starting on Friday of the, at the time 12-day slower Julian calendar. Currently, it is the year that, when written in Roman numerals, has the most digits (13). This will be surpassed as late as 2888.”

—Year 1888 from an article on “Wikipedia.” ²

“The series of murders have created a panic among the poor unfortunate women who wander in large numbers about Spitalfields Market. One poor creature left her companions and came up to me, seeing that I was writing, and said; ‘Writing about the murder, sir? I wish it had been me! I have been crying my eyes out ever since I heard of it.’ I asked her where she lived. And, bursting into tears, she replied: ‘Anywhere. Last night I slept under some stars. I have eaten nothing for some time. The last meal I had was on Sunday. [November 4th.] All I have had since has been drops of beer which friends have given me.’ The woman was poorly clad, and was strolling about, as a large number of her class do in the East End, without hat or bonnet.”

—Pall Mall Gazette | Saturday, November 10, 1888. ³

An article found in *Living London*, published in 1902, describes a series of events on what used to happen to the women from the East End of London when they entered a doss-house. And, “if you fill in the details,” the article reports, “it is not a pleasing picture. Look back. Long, long ago - twenty years, thirty, forty in some cases - numbers of these women came here or to a neighbouring house as girls. And now look forward. You can see them all going to the workhouse or the hospital gate. That is their well-nigh inevitable end, unless they meet a worse fate. They will not, they

² The year 1888 from an article on “Wikipedia.” Accessed 2014.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1888>

³ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: “Pall Mall Gazette,” November 10, 1888. Accessed 2014.

http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

cannot, rise to a higher level.”⁴ One must wonder why that would be, for there never has been the lack of instinct in any individual to strive for a living; animals strive for survival. It almost sounds preposterous how the streetwalkers of the East End were refused to rise “to a higher level,” for no other reason than that it seems clear, that predetermination (guaranteeing no elevation of status beyond a workhouse or a “hospital gate”) was automatically attached to these women. Not surprisingly, good old odd variables directed they “meet a worse fate.” It is interesting to note those who disagreed with predeterminations, as the author Andrew Mearns. He stated many in the East End “would gladly break away from the dismal, degrading life they are leading if only a way were made for them to do so; as it is they are hemmed in and chained down by their surroundings in hopeless and helpless misery.”⁵

What we know for certain “Jack the Ripper” had to his advantage, was opportunity.

The examination should be made in daylight; colour changes are often invisible by artificial light. If the body is seen on the spot where it was first discovered, attention should be paid to the following points:-

The exact posture in which it lies, the expression and colour of the face, the position of the hands whether clenched or not; if clenched, they should be examined for any substance possibly grasped by them. The fingers should be examined for cuts or wounds.

The condition of the dress: if disordered, indicating a struggle, or if it is soiled or stained with blood.

Attention should be directed to the ground on which the body lies and to that immediately around it for signs of struggling and for objects that may have dropped, as fragments of clothing, &c.

Any discovery should at once be recorded in writing. The presence or absence of body heat, of cadaveric rigidity, or of putrefactive changes are to be observed.

When an exhaustive investigation of the body *in situ* has been made, it may be removed to some place convenient for further examination.

*J. Dixon Mann, Forensic Medicine & Toxicology
(London: Charles Griffin & Co., Ltd., 1893).*

⁴ George R. Sims, *Living London*, Vol. II. (London: Cassell & Co., Ltd., 1902).

⁵ Andrew Mearns, *The Bitter Cry of Outcast London*, James Clarke & Co., 1883.

We have nothing conclusive in regards to the motive and the means. One could question if there were not enough interviews done, or statements taken, or forensic evidence collected, which would eliminate means and motive. Forensic pathologist, J. Dixon Mann, gives us an idea of what was expected from the first arrivers at a murder scene to detect in the Victorian Era. In all matters connected with police work at the time, “an immediate photograph should be taken wherever practicable before anything is moved (a) of the scene of a murder or other serious crime; and (b) of a body found dead,” as recorded in the Police Code.⁶ No doubt artists were also used to sketch out the body (*in situ*) if a photographer was not available.

We therefore have for forensic collection: (a) Whatever the first responder noticed on and around the body. (b) A photographer -if available- to capture the victim’s state, or (c) a sketch is drawn. There was no knowledge to collect DNA and we do not hear of fingerprints that were lifted from an area where the Ripper victims were discovered though fingerprinting had been introduced pre-700 B.C. “used on clay tablets for business transaction in ancient Babylon,”⁷ and in October 1880, fingerprint identification was revolutionized by Henry Faulds’s contribution in forensic identification of criminals.⁸

We now lay down four groups, with only one that had the means, opportunity, and motive to commit these crimes in 1888.

Group One: “Jack the Ripper” - Convenient

Selecting the *nom de guerre* “Jack the Ripper” as a suspect is convenient for many reasons that could fill volumes. Citizens and officials termed him as a lone lunatic on the rampage, who left no evidence behind and vanished into thin air as quickly as his victims materialized. No motive for his crimes were officially tagged on him; he did

⁶ Sir Howard Vincent, K.C.M.G., C.B., *The Police Code & General Manual of the Criminal Law* (Fifteenth Edition), London & Tonbridge, Bradbury, Agnew, & Co., Ltd., 1912.

Special thanks to Marcus L. Rowland for uploading the material. Accessed 2014.
www.forgottenfutures.co.uk

⁷ Stephanie Rankin: “Forensic Science Central.” *History of Forensic Science*. Accessed 2010.
<http://forensicsciencecentral.co.uk/history.shtml>

⁸ Henry Faulds, *Nature* 22, p. 605: “On the Skin-furrows of the Hand,” October 28, 1880.
<http://galton.org/fingerprints/faulds-1880-nature-furrows.pdf>

have the opportunity if he lived and breathed in Whitechapel, but we don't know if he could have had easy access to weapons. As a consequence, the only "hope and ambition of every East End policeman was to catch the Ripper red-handed. This seemed the only way. There was small chance of the killer being caught and convicted through circumstantial evidence. Of such evidence there was virtually none,"⁹ which made the Ripper a very convenient suspect indeed.

THE STAR

OCTOBER 3, 1888.

If a deadly fight is taking place in a house, the police officers in the area will not enter unless they hear cries of 'Murder.'

If a lodger calls a policeman's attention to the fact that murder is being committed he is asked if he is the landlord, and if he says no, then he is told that the policeman has no authority to enter the house unless invited to do so by the landlord or his deputy.

It is quite common in low neighbourhoods for a woman to come up to a policeman in the dead of the night and ask him to come with her to her lodgings because her husband, or so-called husband, is there, mad drunk, threatening to murder her. The policeman looks at her, mentally studies his code-book, and tells her to go back, and that no doubt it will be all right.

Group Two: Police and State Authorities – Scapegoats or Provocateurs?

Sometimes a story circulates how this and that official from 1888 could have been the Ripper, which is only based on the lack of the authorities to capture the killer at the time. If the authorities were not convenient suspects, they were the scapegoats who had the means and opportunity to commit the crimes. Yet, when accusing them, it has never been thought out very well as to the motive any police official would have had to cause the death of five prostitutes -in one particular area- as opposed to expanding into another area and upgrading the victim count.

⁹ Walter Dew, *I Caught Crippen*, (London: Blackie & Son, Ltd., 1938).

Sponsored state terrorism is a term well known today to have existed and still does. One only has to read former Detective Sergeant Patrick McIntyre's work, a man who turned whistle-blower and revealed plots that were nothing more than state sponsored covert operations, approved by the Prime Minister Lord Salisbury and run through spies, with the aim of discrediting.¹⁰

The means and opportunity were definitely there for the State provocateurs; the motive would be exceptionally difficult to prove, if ever proved. Perhaps the State became unintentional provocateurs, as when the Bloody Sunday riots broke out at Trafalgar Square in 1887, which resulted with some damage control and getting Sir Charles Warren's resignation by the winter months of 1888.

RIOT REIGNS.

Serious Conflicts Between Police
and Paraders in London
Yesterday.

Trafalgar Square Surrounded by a
Mob Numbering One Hun-
dred Thousand.

Several Hand-to-Hand Fights Take
Place in Which Many
Are Injured.

The Military Called Out to Assist the
Police in Preserving
Order.

Graphic Description of the Battles—
Scenes of the Greatest
Excitement.

Special Cablegram to the Leader—Copyrighted 1887
LONDON, November 14.—An enormous
crowd, estimated to number 100,000 persons.

Special Cablegram to the Leader—Copyrighted 1887

LONDON, November 14.—An enormous crowd, estimated to number 100,000 persons, gathered in the vicinity of Trafalgar Square to-day, despite the warning of Sir Charles Warren, Commissioner of Police, that no meeting in the square would be permitted. Most of those who came intended to take part in the anti-coercion meeting called by the Radical clubs and leaders, but a large number of Socialists and turbulent spirits of all kinds were drawn to the spot. The crowd jammed all the approaches to the Square and finally pressed so hard against the quadruple cordon of police who surrounded the open space, and became so threatening and demonstrative, that orders were given to the police to drive them back. These orders were carried out with great severity. The police were merciless, apparently believing that if they did not succeed in dispersing the crowd they would themselves be routed and treated without mercy. The hardest fighting was in Northumberland avenue, but there was a general encounter in all the streets debouching upon the square. Hundreds of persons, including numbers of

women, were injured more or less severely. They were conveyed to hospitals as soon as possible. A reporter saw eight wounded men taken into Charing Cross Hospital within twenty minutes. The leaders of the mob seemed to be young toughs from the east end. At 4 o'clock Sir Charles Warren gave up the attempt to control the crowd with the police force at his disposal, and called upon the military authorities for assistance. A detachment of mounted and foot Life Guards quickly responded, having been held in readiness for such an emergency. Their appearance, together with that of large reinforcements of police, resulted in the crowd being overawed, and the streets were soon cleared. Most of the people seemed by common consent to take up their march for Hyde Park. A magistrate who had come with the military to read the riot act remained on the ground, but had no occasion to read the act. At 6 o'clock the military and police were still in position holding the square. A strong force had also been sent to Hyde Park.

—“Cleveland Leader,” November 14, 1887.

¹⁰ Andrew Cook, *M: MI5's First Spymaster*, Stroud, Gloucestershire: Tempus, 2004.

Group Four: Certain members of the community - *Revengeful*

This 1887 Bloody Sunday provocation stirred the rage and horror of the working class, not only in the heart of the Metropolis, but also in the East End of Whitechapel; an area categorized as the “human dustbin overflowing with the dregs of society.” Members of this community had the means to approach any prostitute loitering their alleys -and so accost them without suspicion. They also had the opportunities to know the police beats -and so to avoid the officers on patrol.

EVENING NEWS

SEPTEMBER 12, 1888.

The safety of Londoners' property depends, not on the regularity, but on the irregularity of the policeman's beat. Everyone knows that houses and streets are actually tested, indicated, and identified by London thieves, and that there is a code of signals which they perfectly understand.

The policeman goes his rounds at night with the regularity of a well-appointed omnibus service, and the thieves know it well. If the inspectors would only order the reversal of the routes, and introduce a little irregularity into their nocturnal visits, we should have fewer burglaries and probably more prisoners.

This community also had at their fingers any weapon they chose due to many working in slaughter houses -and so to strike with. And, with a little coordination, they could be capable of giving various unexplained witness accounts of “suspects” they said they saw with a victim -and so create false alibis and descriptions which baffled the police.

“As always happens in such cases, so many people were eager to give information. The majority were well-meaning enough, but some notoriety seekers made statements which were patently untrue, with no other object than to get their names into the newspapers. I have never been able to understand the mentality of such people. Our job was big enough in all conscience without having to waste time exploring false clues.”

—Former police officer Walter Dew. ¹¹

¹¹ Walter Dew, *I Caught Crippen*, (London: Blackie & Son, Ltd., 1938).

Most importantly, this community had the motive, handed down on a silver platter, when thousands were trampled, injured, and degraded to humility on Bloody Sunday in Trafalgar Square just five months before the first brutal killing of Emma Smith hit the newspaper stands. “What then is more reasonable than to suppose that these horrors may have been produced in this scientific sensational way to awake the public conscience?” Stead, editor of the “Pall Mall Gazette” told his readers. “If this should after all turn out to be the case, the defense of the scientific Sociologist at the Old Bailey will be a curiosity in the history of criminal trials and may mark the beginning if the scientific era in social development.”

Sir Robert Anderson’s letter states to the Home Office on October 23, 1888: “The activity of the police has been to a considerable extent wasted through the exigencies of sensational journalism, and the action of unprincipled persons, who, from various motives, have endeavoured to mislead us.” As to Inspector Abberline’s comment to the newspaper many years later, much can be said, since the theories he talks of were injected by members from the community of Whitechapel. “We were lost almost in theories; there were so many of them.” ¹²

Another factor of the Ripper case, which could be debated within volumes, was the theory that the *nom de guerre* “Jack the Ripper” belonged to a lunatic who was killing streetwalkers. This is singular, since the non-arrest of the murderer was the provincial drawback to this theory. “Homicidal maniacs are not always cunning,” reported “The Auckland Evening Star” in its November 24th issue of 1888. “And lunacy specialists agree that any madman who would commit murder would be sure to show traces of his mania to even casual acquaintances. It is well nigh impossible to conceive of a dangerous lunatic of the kind supposed being at large and committing so many daring crimes without being detected or making incriminating statements.”

Reflecting back to Sir Robert Anderson, the Second Assistant Metropolitan Police Commissioner of the time, he also saw the Ripper as “a sexual maniac of a virulent kind living in the immediate vicinity. The police reached the conclusion that he and

¹² Inspector Abberline, “Cassell’s Saturday Journal,” May 28, 1892.

his people were aliens of a certain low type that the latter knew of the crimes but would not give him up.”¹³ Nevertheless, this social acceptance, deeply rooted, that a maniac was killing off prostitutes had to have been formed upon some type of trust; if not, then through some persuasion. It could however have been something deeper than that, like when we have an inner desire to rid ourselves of the unacceptable, yet not having the initiative or responsibility to get involved to be rid of it ourselves.

The fact has made a deep impression on us as researchers, because so accustomed are we to think, since the murders did happen there must have been a murderer, we have a reasonable doubt if this particular murderer -coined “Jack the Ripper”- was the sole perpetrator.

The public heard a name; a name no doubt reporters, editors, and journalists at the time would have killed for to come up with, only to merge it into the labyrinths of terror and panic created by some other hand in order to upgrade their business prospective and sell more newspapers. Perhaps they did; it has been suggested for the evening newspaper “The Star” founded in London in 1888. The paper grew rapidly as a result of its coverage of the Ripper case, and was, probably still is, highly suspected to have coined and wrote the second “Dear Boss” letter signed “Jack the Ripper.” But former police officer Walter Dew, who was transferred to H-Division (Whitechapel) in 1887 noted in his memoirs how the *nom de guerre* “Jack the Ripper” originated not only from the letters signed in such a way, but also “from the messages chalked on the walls.”¹⁴

The point stands as to how “Jack the Ripper” could have been socially accepted at the time without questioning those who were saying he existed. We know today the staging of terror and panic can be attributed to manipulating and controlling the masses; in those days, terror contributed to arousing the people.

¹³ A.P. Moore-Anderson, *Sir Robert Anderson: Secret Service Theologian*. Accessed 2014.
<http://www.newble.co.uk/anderson/biography/preface.html>

¹⁴ Walter Dew's memoirs, *I Caught Crippen*, (London: Blackie & Son, Ltd., 1938).

PALL MALL GAZETTE
SEPTEMBER 19, 1888.

The sluggish public is roused at last and the *Times* and *Morning Post* vie with each other in writing articles of almost unmitigated socialism. 'We cannot contemplate the life,' says the *Times*, 'which these unexampled horrors reveal without feeling a quickened sense of responsibility for such features of it as human effort rightly applied can either abate or remove.'

We have to consider how far our social organization is responsible for the preparation of the soil and atmosphere in which such crimes are produced.'

S.G.O. cries 'At last!' and the Rev. S.A. Barnett exclaims with a sigh 'Whitechapel horrors will not be in vain if at last the public conscience awakes to consider the life which these horrors reveal.'

What then is more reasonable than to suppose that these horrors may have been produced in this scientific sensational way to awake the public conscience? If this should after all turn out to be the case, the defense of the scientific Sociologist at the Old Bailey will be a curiosity in the history of criminal trials and may mark the beginning if the scientific era in social development.'

CABLE NEWS.

**SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST THE
LONDON POLICE.**

THE DEPOSED KING MALIETOA.

**BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH—COPYRIGHT.
[UNITED PRESS ASSOCIATION.]**

LONDON, 16th September.

Several of the daily papers allege that many members of the police are associated with the criminal class, and that instead of making efforts to trace the Whitechapel murderer and bring him to justice, they are trying to screen him.

It is reported that there have been large withdrawals of gold from the Argentine Republic.

The *Times* urges that England and America should make a combined appeal to Germany to restore ex-King Malietoa to the Samoan throne, on the condition, if necessary, that German influence shall dominate in Samoa.

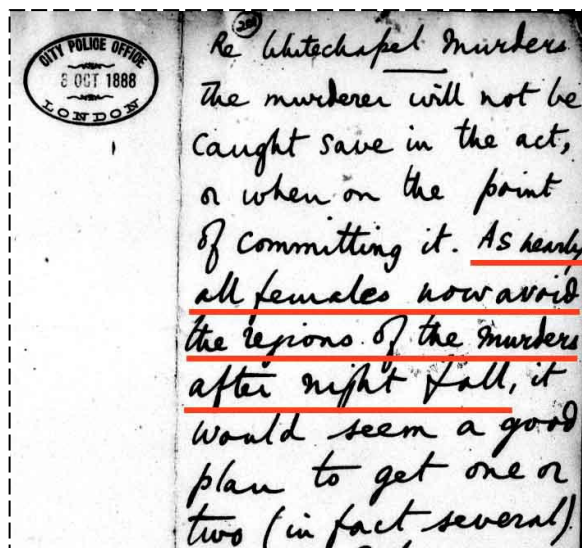
Source: National Library of New Zealand, The "Evening Post," September 18, 1888.

<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast?a=d&d=EP18880918.1.2&e=16-09-1888-18-09-1888-10-EP-11---OEvening+Post->

Perhaps, however, some among you will be glad to read what Sir Robert Anderson's letter stated when he wrote to the Home Office on October 23, 1888: "The activity of the police has been to a considerable extent wasted through the exigencies of sensational journalism, and the action of unprincipled persons, who, from various motives, have

endeavoured to mislead us.” Others may tend to lean towards Terence Stanford (author) on his opinion that “the police were specifically accused of harassing, even blackmailing certain sections of society,” ¹⁵ which can be seen published (above article image) in the “Evening Post” on September 18, 1888.

The paramount consideration is what would account for the willingness of the victims to be led into danger while the whole neighbourhood was aghast at the crimes. This was an intelligent thought raised by a subscriber in “The Mercury” newspaper of November 1888, and was also pondered on by the police: “The conduct of these women throughout the period of the crimes was to me,” former officer Walter Dew noted in his memoirs, “one of the most remarkable features of the whole drama.” ¹⁶ Amongst the multiple answers that could be given, is that the victims must have felt some comfort and security, or even have been assured of this; otherwise, there was no common sense attached to the actions of the girls going out after nightfall. And the Jacks could equally be held to blame for the fate of these girls. They knew as much as the streetwalkers knew how they were stepping on an icy patch that was ready to crack at any given moment. So why the Jacks and the girls take the risk, is an element of human behaviour which is extraordinary, yet holds the key in answering many unanswered questions.



We learn from the public (image letter) that it was not until the beginning of October in 1888, after four streetwalkers had been murdered, that the girls began to avoid going out after nightfall. This could explain why there were no murders in October of that year, and perhaps the reason why the last suspected canonical victim, Mary Kelly,

¹⁵ Terence George Stanford, *The Metropolitan Police 1850-1914: Targeting Harassment and the Creation of a Criminal Class*. Doctoral thesis, University of Huddersfield, 2007.

¹⁶ Walter Dew, *I Caught Crippen*, (London: Blackie & Son, Ltd., 1938).

was slaughtered indoors a month later. And there's evidence to support this from the police; specifically, from Sir Robert Anderson himself: "However the fact be accounted for, no further murder in the series took place after a warning had been given that the police would not protect them if found on the prowl after midnight." ¹⁷

Here we have it then; the answer to what would account for the willingness of these victims to be led into danger while the whole neighbourhood was aghast at the Ripper crimes. They were given security by the police. This is the same police who could not "buckle" the Ripper and the same girls who are suspected to have "enjoyed a cozy relationship with the local constabulary, to whom they handed out sexual favours or bribes." ¹⁸ Should this not be the case, then the security and trust was coming from the community itself.

Amongst all this mayhem the Ripper was creating, there was a special group that was circulating a rare amount of money to "informers" and "agents" as a contemporary Metropolitan Police Officer, Lindsay Clutterbuck, uncovered when he obtained access to police ledgers from the period detailing payments to such individuals. ¹⁹ These Special Branch files have not been released to the public, which, according to Tom Blanton, the Director of the National Security Archive at George Washington University, finds that "Secrecy after 123 years is just absurd. There's no privacy interest that can last that long. There's no possible national security sensitivity that could last that long. I would conclude that what's going on here is official embarrassment." ²⁰

An interesting documentary can be seen in the given footnote link ²¹ on Scotland Yard's C.I.D. and police corruption. The man in charge of the internal affair, Sir Robert Mark, states that this sort of police corruption was going on in Scotland Yard from

¹⁷ A.P. Moore-Anderson, *Sir Robert Anderson: Secret Service Theologian*. Accessed 2014.
<http://www.newble.co.uk/anderson/biography/preface.html>

¹⁸ Lewis P. Curtis Jr., *Jack the Ripper and the London Press*, Yale University Press, 2002.

¹⁹ Lindsay Clutterbuck, *An Accident of History?* University of Portsmouth, 2002.

²⁰ Chicago Tribune article, "The Ripper's Secrets," October 11, 2011. Accessed 2012.
http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2011-10-11/opinion/ct-edit-ripper-20111011_1_three-person-tribunal-ripper-informants

²¹ Youtube video: "Sir Robert Mark: The Man who Cleaned up the Met Police," Published May 17, 2012.
 Accessed 2014.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YfMyTtUHIGc#t=867>

1879; this is the year when Special Branch began their recordings of informants and agents in the ledger records mentioned above; records that covered the Whitechapel murders and are today censored 125 years on.²²

BAY HERALD

JANUARY 7, 1899.²³

Most of the men belonging to this department [Special Branch] are of superior education, and have been selected on account of the special aptitude they have displayed in the capture of law-breakers. It enjoys the pleasant reputation of being the only police department where a liberal allowance for expenses is made.

When a man accepts duty as a temporary detective, he is only allowed 2s.6d per week in addition to his wages [annual wage of £184.16 in today's currency] as a constable, but the favoured member of the Special Service enjoys practically a free hand.

The most interesting feature of Scotland Yard is the Secret Service (or Political Department) of which Mr. [William] Melville, most able and conscientious officer, is the chief. While the ordinary Yard officer is dealing with such matters as the arrest of refugee criminals, extradition proceedings, or the unraveling of some murder mystery, his comrade of the Political Department is transacting affairs of still greater State importance.

The safeguarding of Royalty and of Cabinet Ministers, the arrest of anarchists and revolutionists, and the investigation of charges of treason fall to the lot of some 40 picked men acting under Mr. Melville's direction. They are in daily communication with the Police Department of every foreign Government, and certain members are frequently dispatched on secret missions abroad.

This special department was formed in 1883, at the time of the dynamite outrages, and remained for some years under Chief Inspector Littlechild as a temporary establishment.

Finally, the Home Office being convinced of enormous importance of the work which had been performed by the new service,

²² Mail Online article, "Police make bizarre legal battle to keep Jack the Ripper files secret so Victorian sources keep their 'confidentiality'," May 15, 2011. Accessed 2014.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1387354/Jack-Ripper-Scotland-Yards-legal-battle-files-secret-120-years-killings.html>

²³ National Library of New Zealand: Hawke, Bay Herald, Volume XXXIV, Issue 11116, Jan 7, 1899.

resolved that it should be established on a permanent basis. Representatives are stationed at the chief ports not only in the UK, but on the Continent.

The chief of Special Branch, William Melville, embedded himself into the team that foiled the 1887 *Jubilee Plot*; an assassination attempt against Her Majesty Queen Victoria. Some years later, former Detective Sergeant Patrick McIntyre turned whistleblower and revealed the plot was nothing more than a state sponsored covert operation, approved by the Prime Minister Lord Salisbury, run through the spy Francis Millen, with the aim of discrediting Irish nationalism.²⁴ “It is safe to say,” noted McIntyre, “that no conspiracy of quite the same nature had been known in England during this century.”²⁵

Amid the rush and roar of Special Branch was James Monroe, a solicitor and banker.²⁶ Monroe became the First Assistant Metropolitan Police Commissioner from 1884 till 1888, and then Metropolitan Police Commissioner from 1888 till 1890. As First Assistant Commissioner, he joined Melville to participate in assisting Special Branch to “foil” the same *Jubilee Plot*. On August 28, 1888, Monroe retired as Assistant Commissioner; “it is said, that the immediate occasion of his retirement was that Sir Charles Warren distinctly snubbed him before the superintendents of the force.”²⁷ Upon Sir Warren’s resignation in November of that year, Monroe stepped into the office of Commissioner,²⁸ which allows us to surmise as an action of some type of damage control was needed due to the Ripper crimes.

Both Monroe and Melville, and it is highly suspected Inspector Abberline as well - though Melville’s “staff largely consists of Irishmen, most of whom have been trained in France”²⁹ - began working in and around Whitechapel as undercover agents. One

²⁴ Andrew Cook, *M: MI5's First Spymaster*, Stroud, Gloucestershire: Tempus, 2004.

²⁵ Nat. Library of New Zealand: Detective Sergeant Patrick McIntyre, *Reynold's News*, Apr 14, 1895.

²⁶ “The Star Newspaper and Mr. Monroe,” *HC Deb 11 July 1889*, Vol. 338 c133.
http://hansard.millbanksystems.com/commons/1889/jul/11/the-star-newspaper-and-mr-monro#S3V0338P0_18890711_HOC_118

²⁷ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” *Press Reports: Daily News*, Aug 31, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

²⁸ National Library of New Zealand: *The Bruce Herald*, November 20. 1888.

²⁹ National Library of New Zealand: *Otago Witness*, Issue 2114, August 30, 1894.

operation they were highly involved in was gaining inside intelligence on the most ill-famed scandal of Victorian London which reeked from the chimney tops of the East End all the way under the floorboards of 19, Cleveland Street. The scandal was amongst those cloak-and-dagger operations amidst the Ripper terror that shook the East End in 1888.

Henry Du Pré Labouchère, an English politician, writer, publisher and theatre owner in the Victorian and Edwardian eras, inherited a large fortune, engaged in a number of occupations, and was a junior member of the British diplomatic service. In addition, he was a Member of Parliament in the 1860s and again from 1880 to 1906, and edited and funded his own magazine called *Truth*. He is remembered for the Labouchère Amendment to British law, which for the first time made all male homosexual activity a crime. Unable to secure the senior positions to which he thought himself suitable, he left Britain and retired to Italy. Labouchère gives us a more detailed account of this scandal.

Henry Du Pré Labouchère
(1831-1912)

**QUINCY DAILY JOURNAL
DECEMBER 1889.**

In the beginning of last July [1889] a boy in the Post Office was found to be in possession of much larger sums of money than it was likely he would have obtained in a legitimate way.

On the 4th of July the boy was sent for by Mr. Phillips, an official of the Post Office, and Constable Hanks, attached to the Post Office, and the boy confessed that he had received the money for a certain offence committed in a house in Cleveland Street, occupied by one Hammond, and that other boys in the Post Office were equally guilty.

These other boys were examined, and they also confessed, all stating that they had been induced to go to the house by a certain Newlove, a clerk in the Post Office.

Newlove was interrogated and confessed to the charge, arrested on the 7th of July, taken before the magistrate on the 8th, and by successive remands detained until the 20th of August. On that day a man named Veck was arrested. He was associated with Hammond in this house.



Newlove and Veck were charged together; on the 11th of September they were committed for trial; and on the 18th were tried at the Old Bailey. Veck was indicted for felony and for misdemeanour; and Newlove was indicted alone for misdemeanour. Both pleaded guilty to misdemeanour and were sentenced, Veck to nine months and Newlove to four months imprisonment. The sentence on Veck was scandalously inadequate.

Two men of high social standing were arrested by Inspector Abberline in connection with the unspeakable scandal. They were not brought before the magistrate publicly, but as the inspector was seen in the private room of that official, it is thought the case was tried privately.

Veck, who was called 'the Rev' something, I do not know whether he was in holy orders, but he went about dressed as a clergyman, had not only committed these offences himself with the boys, but was the associate and partner of Hammond, and induced boys to go to Cleveland Street for money, and in order to serve his private ends. If ever a man deserved the full sentence of the law this man Veck did.

The Committee will remember how if a poor man, urged by primary necessity steals some small thing, he is sent to prison often for more than nine months, and how in Ireland men are sent to prison for longer periods for offences which assuredly even no Gentleman on the opposite side of the House will assert are in the least to be compared with that of this man Veck. Whether this inadequate sentence was a condition of these men pleading guilty, or whether, as they did plead guilty, it happened that the depositions at the Police Court were not shown to the Recorder, and he did not know how monstrous the case was, I do not know. But I think it is pretty clear that the real object was to stop all further disclosures, hush the matter up, and get these men out of the way. I believe that Newlove and Veck would never have been prosecuted had it not been for the action of the Postmaster General and the Secretary of the Post Office.

The matter occurred in the Post Office, and they, I honour and respect them for it, insisted that action should be taken in the matter. The Solicitor to the Treasury, who is, I believe, under the orders of the right hon. Gentleman the Home Secretary, and the Treasury, and I dare say the Home Secretary also, knew perfectly well by this time that certain persons had frequented this house in Cleveland Street; they knew that the police had got certain clues; they knew certain names had been mentioned; and they determined, so far as they were concerned, that if they were obliged to prosecute these two men the case should go no farther if they could prevent it.

Having thus arranged matters in regard to these two men, what, the House will wonder, had become of Hammond, the proprietor of the house? If Hammond had been arrested, he would no doubt have been able to make revelations.

These wretches live not only by this particular offence, but by a system of levying blackmail; and it is incredible to suppose that Hammond did not himself know the names of many of the persons who had frequented the house.

I stated that on the 4th of July these matters were investigated at the Post Office by Mr. Phillips, with Constable Hanks, and that Newlove and the other boys told what they knew about Hammond.

Hammond was not watched on the 4th of July; far from it. It may be reasonably supposed that information of what was passing was conveyed by Newlove to Hammond, who, not being watched, fled the country. When he had got well away, on the 6th of July, a warrant was obtained against him.

The Treasury were informed by Mr. Monro that Hammond was not present, but the police, unlike the Treasury, were perfectly in the earliest in this matter. The Postal Authorities wrote at the same time to ask that, if possible, Hammond should be secured and brought back to England.

On the 25th of July the Treasury forwarded to the police a letter from Lord Salisbury saying that the Government could not ask that Hammond should be extradited from France. By this time the Post Office, who were still anxious to pursue Hammond, had sent Mr. Phillips over to Paris, and on the 7th of August a telegram was received from him asking that someone should be sent over to complete arrangements for the expulsion of Hammond from France.

On the 8th of August Inspector Abberline was sent over; but he did not stay long, and he was succeeded by Inspector Lowe. I do not know exactly what was being done with the French Government, but nothing came of it, and Hammond remained in France for about a month.

On the 12th of September Hammond, whether expelled or not, went over the Belgian frontier, and Inspector Lowe followed him and reported to Scotland Yard that Hammond was at a town in Belgium. Mr. Phillips also went to Belgium on the 12th of September, and it appears that on the 14th he was already in communication with the Belgian police, for he telegraphed that at the moment an assurance could be given that demand for extradition would be made, the Belgian police would arrest Hammond. On this the

English police applied to the Treasury. The reply was that an answer should be sent as soon as possible, but that the question was not free from difficulty.

On September 16, the secretary to the Post Office, who was also in earnest, wrote to the police urging that immediate steps should be taken to secure Hammond's arrest.

On September 17, Inspector Greenham was sent to Belgium and reported himself at Brussels. On the same day the Treasury wrote to the police that there was no evidence before them of an extraditable offence, and therefore they could not ask for Hammond's extradition.

On October 6 a strong letter was written by Mr. Monro to the Treasury, drawing attention to the stigma which would rest on the English police if Hammond were allowed to escape. On that day he did escape. Remember, this man was surrounded by English police. He was being watched by the Belgian police, but he went to Antwerp and embarked on board a ship called *The Pennland*, which was bound for the United States.

During the time Hammond had been in Belgium, the Belgian police reported that he was accompanied by an English boy. [Herbert John Ames] This boy had been abstracted from his parents presumably for vile purposes.

Now, whilst Hammond was in Belgium, whilst the English and Belgian police were surrounding him, Mr. Newton was with the solicitor to Lord Arthur Somerset and also to Veck and Newlove, either went to Belgium himself or sent someone there. This Mr. Newton, or this other person, gave Hammond a large sum of money, and also paid for the ticket not only of Hammond, but also of the boy who had fallen into such a terrible position.

The boy mentioned by Labouchère was Herbert John Ames, aged nineteen, an inmate of Charles R. Hammond's notorious Cleveland Street house in London, and who escaped with Hammond to the States. The boy made a statement concerning the place, "and swore to its truth before a notary public in the presence of several witnesses." The following comes from Ames himself, printed in the "Omaha Daily Bee" newspaper in January of 1891. What is interesting in the article, is that Ames tells us this brothel was already in business during the month of June 1888 and consequently during the Ripper terror.

OMAHA DAILY BEE
JANUARY 1891.

In June 1888, Thomas Conway, a boy of nineteen years of age, told me of the existence of a house kept by Hammond on Cleveland Street, London, and induced me to go there with him. As the life was an easy one and money was plenty, I remained there till June 1889, at which time a discovery of the nature of the house compelled Hammond and myself to leave London.

I was told by Hammond that he had been running the place between three and four years, and during the year that I was there about twenty men visited the house regularly. Many of these were introduced into the house under a false name, and the names of some were never known either to Hammond or myself. Seven of the men I became personally acquainted with, and their names were:

1. The Earl of Euston [cousin of George V of England]³⁰
2. Lord Arthur Somerset [Assistant Equerry to the Prince of Wales]
3. Robert Jervoice [Colonel Jervois of the 2nd Life Guards] Queen Officer at Winchester Barracks
4. Dr. Maitland of Harvard (a suburb of London)
5. Percy Stafford (a capitalist of London)
6. Hugh Waglin (a banker of 56, Sackwell Street, London)
7. Captain Barbey of the army.

All the visitors to the house were from the highest class and they were always liberal with their money.

Then the exposure occurred which caused the house to shut down. Hammond took me with him and went to Calais and from there went to Paris. In Paris we stayed three weeks with Mrs. Hammond's sister and then went to Langley, France. At Langley, Hammond was met by Arthur Newton, a lawyer acting in the interests of the visitors to the Cleveland Street house, and he wanted us to go to America at once. On the following day two English detectives went to the French officers and had Hammond expelled from the country. They told him to leave by noontime.

In July 1889, we left France and went to Belfast, and then to Halanzy, where we stayed three weeks. While in Halanzy, Newton the lawyer, sent word to Hammond to go to Antwerp, where he would meet him and arrange matters. We met Newton at Brussels, and in a room in one of the hotels there Newton asked what he would take to go to America. I was in the room at the time, and Hammond told him that he would have to have £5,000 to start with. The matter was finally compromised between them for £800.

³⁰ Cedar Rapids Evening Gazette, August, 9, 1910.



The Earl Of Euston

Laying of the Foundation Stone at Princes Street Masonic Hall, Northampton 1889 - [Public Domain](#)



Lord Arthur Somerset

Assistant Equerry to the Prince of Wales ³¹

³¹ Henry Poole & Co.: "Lord Arthur Somerset," February 15, 2012. Accessed 2014.
https://henrypoole.com/hall_of_fame/lord-arthur-somerset/

We sailed under fictitious names on the steamer *Pennland* for New York, and when we arrived there a man named Harris, who had been sent by Newton to see that we arrived all right, paid \$4,000 over to Hammond. Hammond cannot write, and since he has been here I have done that work for him. I have written letters for him demanding money from the Earl of Euston, Lord Somerset and Robert Jervoise demanding £100 for Hammond, who stated that he was in trouble.

Whether or not Hammond ever received any return I cannot positively state. While Hammond was running the Haymarket saloon I once asked him for money. He was very pleasant and offered me some whiskey to drink, but I did not touch it, as there was a substance in the bottom of the glass that looked like poison.

The *Cleveland Street Scandal* was debated in the House of Commons in 1890 when Lord Salisbury's government was accused of a criminal conspiracy to defeat the ends of justice. Demand for an inquiry was defeated by 206 votes to 66. Within two years, Prince Albert Victor died and his younger brother claimed the English throne. None of the aristocratic visitors to Cleveland Street were ever



charged, amongst whom were those "seven men" the boy Ames claimed to have personally been acquainted with.

PALL MALL GAZETTE
OCTOBER 8, 1888.

London is the greatest city in the world; yet her detectives are at fault, utterly and apparently, hopelessly, at fault, because of this, because of that, because of the other, for there are as many explanations as there are explainers. It does not seem to have occurred to anyone to suggest the very obvious and simple explanation, that the detectives may have failed because the

Criminal Investigation Department to which they belong has no longer a head. Such, however, is the fact.

Strange, almost incredible, though it appears, it was in the very midst of the series of murders at Whitechapel that the internal disputes which for some time past paralyzed the efficiency of the Metropolitan Police came to a head, and in so doing decapitated the Criminal Investigation Department.

Mr. Monro, who for the last four years has acted as the chief of the detective force, resigned at the end of August, finding his position intolerable. His successor is Dr. Robert Anderson: A millenarian and writer of religious books was appointed in his place. But although Dr. Anderson is nominally at the head of the C.I.D. he is only there in spirit.

At a time when all the world is ringing with outcries against the officials who allow murder to stalk unchecked through the most densely crowded quarter of the metropolis, the chief official who is responsible for the detection of the murderer is as invisible to Londoners as the murderer himself. You may seek for Dr. Anderson in Scotland Yard, you may look for him in Whitehall Place, but you will not find him, for he is not there.

Dr. Anderson, with all the arduous duties of his office still to learn, is preparing himself for his apprenticeship by taking a pleasant holiday in Switzerland! No one grudges him this holiday. But just at present it does strike the uninstructed observer as a trifle off, that the chief of London's intelligence department in the battle, the losing battle which the police are waging against crime, should find it possible to be idling in the Alps.

Scandals were not an irregularity in misty London. Detective Inspector Stroud had reported he had a case in 1888 in which a person of the name of Walter Selwyn, or Fairfax, was implicated with a man named Johnson and four others in a gigantic attempt at fraud in connection with the deposit of a large number of Hamilton and Western railway (American) bonds. "They had attempted to obtain £30,000 on the bonds, which proved to be fraudulent. Selwyn called himself Lord Fairfax, and the pair were tried at the Old Bailey, and were convicted and sentenced. Selwyn had suffered eighteen months and five years penal servitude. When Detective Inspector

Stroud had Selwyn in custody, he wore a large black mustache, but the next morning it had turned brown. He recognized Selwyn by the photograph produced. Inspector Sager, of the city police, said that he was present at the central criminal court in November 1890, when two men named George Johnson and John Phillips were tried for forgery. He saw Selwyn there, and he recognized him from the photograph in the possession of Inspector Abberline. Detective Sergeant Lowe, of Scotland Yard, said that he was present with Abberline at Boulogne and elsewhere, and he corroborated his evidence generally.”³²

At the time we are dealing with, Mr. Melville had rented a flat in London using a fake identity under the name of William Morgan. For six years he ran “counterintelligence and foreign intelligence operations”³³ from this flat. Much the same emerged five years later in 1892 when Melville masterminded the destruction of the *Walsall Plot* in which a group of anarchist workmen went to prison for scheming to build a bomb. Once again, the man at the centre of the plot turned out to be one of Melville’s provocateurs.³⁴

Further interest holds the address of 40, Dutfield’s Yard; an area housing the International Working Men’s Educational Club, which was a well-known radical hangout with its members under surveillance by Special Branch in 1888. This is the same spot where a canonical Ripper victim, Elizabeth Stride, had been found. Patrick McIntyre, an undercover agent at the time, wrote an article on April 7, 1895, in regards to the Anarchist movement at the Autonomie Club in Windmill Street, and mentioned how the International Working Men’s Educational Club on Berner Street, being a common hideaway for Charles Mowbray who was the editor of the radical newspaper “Commonweal” and its publisher David Nicoll, were under surveillance.

According to McIntyre, the Special Branch had issued a warrant for the arrest of these two men in 1888, who were later convicted in the false flag operation known as the *Walsall Affair*. Following the Walsall Anarchists provocation and entrapment,

³² National Library of New Zealand: St. Lawrence Republican, March 9, 1892.

³³ Dr. Richard B. Spence, “Perfidious Albion: An Introduction to the Secret History of the British Empire,” published May 23, 2011.

<http://www.redicecreations.com/article.php?id=15472>

³⁴ Andrew Cook, *M: MI5’s First Spymaster*, Stroud, Gloucestershire: Tempus, 2004.

Melville fell out with McIntyre who was forced out of Special Branch, and wrote a memoir calling Melville out and blowing the whistle on the *Walsall Affair*, the *Martial Bourdin* incident, and other actions of the British security state.³⁵

Apart from Special Branch, whose “40 picked men acting under Melville’s direction” dealt with scandals and operations, there were those who actually patrolled Whitechapel known to them as the three F’s district - fried fish and fights - and they were the H-Division officers situated on Leaman Street.³⁶ Their Superintendent was Thomas Arnold and their inspectors mounted to 38 with sergeants around 56 and police constables about 522. In total, H-Division had 616 men.³⁷ Another source, Tom Cullen (author), states that Sir Warren, in 1887, had created 2 superintendents, 168 inspectors, 196 sergeants, “while the number of constable actually dwindled by 89.”³⁸ And yet another source, Charles Dickens’s Dictionary (1888), recorded H-Division having 30 inspectors, 44 sergeants, 473 constables being a total of 548 individuals. As to the Metropolitan Office, this was situated at 4, Whitechapel Place, South West of London, and had for their Commissioner, Colonel Sir Charles Warren;³⁹ his assistants were Lieutenant Colonel R.L.O. Pearson, and A.C. Bruce; legal advisor at the time was J.E. Davis and finally, the Second Assistant Metropolitan Police Commissioner was Sir Robert Anderson from 1888 till 1901.⁴⁰

The Victorian police constables patrolled their beats at a regulated pace and met up with their colleagues at set points during their hours of duty. They carried a truncheon, a Hudson whistle with an issue number stamped on it, and a pair of Hiatt’s barrel handcuffs. At night they were issued with a bull’s-eye lantern that contained a reservoir of paraffin or oil. “There are three grades of uniformed constables, and it is the ambition of most men in these to enter the detective force,

³⁵ Spy Culture, “Profile: William Melville.” Accessed 2014.

<http://www.spyculture.com/william-melville/>

³⁶ Pall Mall Gazette, “The Whitechapel Tragedies. A Night Spent with Inspector Moore,” Nov 4, 1889.

³⁷ Neil R. Storey, *A Grim Almanac of Jack the Ripper’s London 1870-1900*, Sutton Publishing, 2004.

³⁸ Tom Cullen, *The Crimes and Times of Jack the Ripper*, Fontana Books, 1966.

³⁹ Sir Charles Warren was in office from 1886 until 1888.

⁴⁰ Sir Robert Anderson attributed six murders to the Ripper: (1) Martha Tabram; (2) Mary Ann Nichols; (3) Annie Chapman; (4) Elizabeth Stride; (5) Catherine Eddowes; and (6), Mary Jane Kelly.

promotion to which is accompanied by higher salary and improved social position. Even to the third-class policemen the chance of proving his quality soon comes, and, in many cases, advancement to the first class is very rapid. It is from the latter section that our detectives are chiefly recruited, and no man is accepted until he has succeeded in satisfying the divisional chief that he has some natural faculty for the investigation of crime. The pay of a first-class detective constable did not average £2 a week, but if success attends him he will be promoted to sergeant, when his salary, starting at £2.2s., per week, may advance by yearly stages until he receives as much as £3.1s.6d.”⁴¹

A few figures from the time can be given by editor Stead, which gives us a clear enough picture of police and citizen in 1888.

**PALL MALL GAZETTE
OCTOBER 8, 1888.**

Before beginning our account of the causes which have destroyed the confidence of the police in their chiefs and of the public in the police, the following brief summary from Sir Charles Warren's official report for the year 1887, which only saw the light on Saturday, [October 6, 1888,] will be useful.

The population of police London is 5,476,447. The number of the Metropolitan Police is 14,081, or one to every 389 of the inhabitants. This is considerably over the average for the rest of England. The average number of inhabitants per constable in English towns is 722, and in English counties 1,169.

Last year there has been an addition of 177 to a force which was already in excess of the number allowed. But as there are 1,621 Metropolitan constables specially employed and paid for by the government, public companies, and private individuals, the actual number of police available for police duty properly so called in London is 12,460, giving an average of one constable for every 439 inhabitants. The effective force is still further diminished, as the following figures show:-

⁴¹ National Library of New Zealand: Hawke, *Bay Herald*, Volume XXXIV, Issue 11116, Jan 7, 1899.

Gross total, nominal	14,081
Employed by Government or private firms	1,621
Off duty, one Sunday per fortnight	791
Sick and on sick leave	408
Station and outside protection duty	2,488

	5,308

Total available for street duty	8,773

The London in which street duty must be done by this force covers 688 square miles, with a rateable value of £34,346,596. How many miles of streets they have actually to patrol does not appear from the report, which only specifies the streets formed since 1849. Of these there are 1,834, containing 500,000 houses. Last year there were 12,478 new houses built in London, making 23½ miles of new streets. By comparison with the standard of police available for street duty in 1849 the Chief Commissioner arrives at the conclusion that he must have more men. His figures are as follows:-

	Population	Police Available	Population Per Constable
1849	2,473,758	5,288	1 per 468
1888	5,476,447	8,773	1 per 624

This, however, is not a fair comparison. Sir Charles Warren deducts from the police force in 1888, in order to arrive at his police available, all his sick, indoors-men, &c., whereas in 1849 these men are counted. The figures are as follows:-

	Authorized strength	Available	Not Available
1849	5,493	5,228	205
1888	12,460	8,773	3,687

It is obvious that the comparison should be not between those who are solely available for street duty in 1884 and all

available for any duty in 1849, but those which are available for any duty at both periods. In that case the figures will come out as follows:-

	Population	Police	Proportion
1849	2,473,758	5,288	1 per 468
1888	5,476,447	12,460	1 per 439

So that in reality so far from the numbers of the police having been outrun by the growth of London, the truth is the other way. We have more police per thousand of the population now than we had in 1849. We do not complain of this. Their numbers may still be inadequate owing to the new duties which have been thrust upon them by the legislation of the last forty years and the increasing complexity of modern civilization. But when it is stated that the rapid increase of buildings and population has outrun the increase made in the police force, it must at once be stated that this is not true.

After all the absentees and sick are deducted and allowance has been made for all employed in office duty, we have a balance of 8,773 constables available. Of these about 5,000 are on duty from ten o'clock till six. This is nearly four times the number on ordinary beat duty during the day.

A constable's day consists of two shifts of four hours each. Those who come on duty at six remain on duty till ten. They come on again at two and remain on duty till six. Others who come on duty at ten stay till two and come on again at six and leave at ten. Between six o'clock in the morning and ten o'clock at night there are 1,537 constables on their beats, and 464 standing at fixed points, while 79 are doing duty at the hackney carriage standings.

London is divided into 22 divisions, over each of which is a superintendent. The area and importance of these divisions differ immensely. The largest is S [Hampstead division] which has an area of 79 square miles and a police force of 732. The smallest that of C [St. James division] with 7-10ths of a square mile of area and 440 police. Lambeth, with rather under two square miles, has 404 police. The force under the command of each superintendent varies from 400 to 800; only one, Whitehall, having more than 900 men. In each division there are from twenty to fifty inspectors and from forty to eighty sergeants.

Excluding the dockyard divisions, the figures on December 31, 1887, were as follows:-

Superintendents	26
Inspectors	786
Sergeants	1,259
Constables	11,244

Total	13,315

Their pay, including the dockyard divisions, is £1,096,277, of which a 5d. rate on the inhabitants produces £727,351, while the Treasury subvention of £575,141 makes up the balance.

The duties of the police are multifarious. Besides their unusual task of looking after the criminal classes, they have to perform a host of other duties, such as the control and inspection of 959 registered lodging-houses, the enforcement of the Smoke Abatement Act, and the recovery of lost property. The following is an attempt to present in simple but telling fashion the average day's work of the London police.

Today, for instance, 1,500 men in two relays will be patrolling from six o'clock in the morning till ten o'clock at night, while 464 constables will be standing at fixed points. Tonight at ten o'clock 5,000 policemen will turn out to take eight hours' night duty, while five millions of us are asleep. In the course of today 61 articles will be brought into the lost property branch of the Cab department.

Twenty letters will arrive, making inquiries, and thirteen verbal communications, all of which will be answered and attended to. Under their inspection there will be 7,219 hansoms, 4,027 cabs plying for hire, which, if placed end to end would be 45 miles long, 1,783 stage carriages, and 937 tramcars. All these vehicles, 13,966, are licensed by the police, and 27,507 drivers and conductors are also holders of police licenses. About three of these will be convicted of drunkenness in the course of today, while one will be convicted of either for wanton driving, cruelty, abuse, or overcharge. The number convicted of the last offence was only twelve last year. They will apply for eleven summonses against stage and hackney carriages and for two or three against carts and wagons. This is more than half the summonses they will take out, all their other summonses only averaging ten to eleven a day. Summonses against

drink shops do not average two a week, the total per annum being only eighty-seven.

The police will take to the hospital on an ordinary day nine persons suffering from accident and about six suffering from other causes. In the course of the twenty-four hours they will take into custody 181 persons, of whom 40 will be drunk and disorderly, 16 simply drunk, 10 will be disorderly persons, 8 will be disorderly prostitutes, while about 4 will be arrested merely as suspicious characters, and 12 as vagrants. One-half of the arrests will be for offences against order, the other half will be criminal.

Taking one day with another the police run in every twenty-four hours about 30 thieves, 18 persons guilty of assault (common or indecent, a most scandalous confounding of different offences), while there are nearly half-a-dozen persons locked up for assaults on the police nearly every day all the year round. It is worth while noting that the magistrates rarely or never fail to convict prisoners accused of assaulting the police. The following figures are significant:-

	Arrests	Convicted or Committed	Discharged
Common Assaults	6,798	4,369	2,129
Assaults on Police	2,094	2,032	42

A burglar gets caught about every other day, but there are two or three attempted suicides every day, of which at least one is successful. They used to arrest 6,000 prostitutes every year, but thanks to the scandal occasioned by St. Endacott ⁴² they only arrested 3,766 last year, and will probably arrest still fewer this year, for the effect of the Endacott case ⁴³ did not make itself felt until half of 1887 was gone.

Before the day is over, sixty-six policemen will have been summoned to assist in extinguishing at least three fires which break out every day in this great city.

⁴² "Wikipedia": Elizabeth Cass. Accessed 2013.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabeth_Cass

⁴³ Old Bailey Online: BOWEN ENDACOTT, Deception > perjury, 24th October 1887, Reference Number: t18871024-1058.

<http://www.oldbaileyonline.org/browse.jsp?div=t18871024-1058>

About twelve persons, 3 per cent of whom will die, will be maimed or injured by being ridden or driven over in the streets, all of whom will be assisted by the police. About fifty-six felonies will be reported in the course of the day, or about one to every 100,000 of the population.

In the courts there will be over two hundred cases going on, in all of which policemen will be giving evidence, bringing in prisoners, removing them. About ten cases will be going on at the Old Bailey or at the Sessions, and there also policemen will be busy. Policemen also will be driving Black Maria, conveying no fewer than 60 to 100 persons backwards and forwards to gaol. An indefinite number will be attending inquests of which no precise return is made up by the Commissioner. A certain number will be patrolling on horseback, but how many the official report does not say.

The number of sick horses treated in the horse hospital is given, and the deaths, but no return is given of the number of horses, vans, dispatch carts, &c., in the use of the force.

Over 200 summonses will be applied for today by private individuals, all of which the police will serve. About fifty persons - men, women, and children - will be reported lost; if this is an average day, of whom from twenty-five to thirty will be found by the police and restored to their friends. The others will restore themselves.

The number of stray dogs whom the police will catch cannot be estimated from the returns which are very fragmentary. Neither is there any complete record of the other manifold activities of the force, such as the issuing of certificates of sweeps and peddlers, the enforcement of the provisions of the Gun License and the Wild Birds Act, and the billeting of soldiers. But sufficient has been said to show that they do a very good day's work every twenty-four hours.

Not all editors of the Victorian newspapers were entirely satisfied with how the police were handling the British crime wave.

EAST AND WEST HAM GAZETTE
SEPTEMBER 29, 1888.

It is instructive reading to go through the statistics published by the Home Office just now [September 1888] when the police are at fault in several cases, and compare the number of crimes detected and undetected for the past year.

It will be a shock to many who have approved of the notice stopping the payment of rewards for the conviction of murderers that crime of the more serious description is not discovered to the extent it was in the year previous, to the issuing of the above mentioned notice, whereas detected crime of the petty class has risen in number that is very satisfactory to all concerned.

Why is this? We do not believe in the outcry raised against the heads of the criminal department, but we cannot ignore stubborn facts, neither can we close our eyes and blindly believe that our detective system is by any means what it should be. That the police appear a great deal behind the requirements of the times is plainly shown by the crimes in the north and east of London that up to the present have as little chance of being detected as ever, but is it really their fault, is it that the deeds are so carefully planned and carried out that the detectives have no clue to work upon. For even trained bloodhounds are lost without a scent to work from, or is it that the police are really not what we thought and trusted they were.

It is a terrible thing to think that such horrible murders can take place right in our midst without any one of them being discovered or a clue obtained that will give hope of a capture that shall explain the motive of the shocking outrages that have startled and frightened the populace who live in the districts where they have been committed.

As to the officers, the following article gives us a flavour of how they saw the policing system evolve.

EVENING NEWS

SEPTEMBER 4, 1888.

There is a pretty unanimous opinion amongst most of the members of the Metropolitan Police force that the reason of the want of success, or, as the public have it, the want of energy and intelligence on the part of the detective force, in discovering the perpetrators of great crimes is not far to seek.

According to them, in the first place the order prohibiting a constable to participate in any reward offered by the authorities for the capture of a criminal has worked a twofold evil - it lessens the inducement to extra exertion on the part of the men, and, what is worse, breeds a system of deception, as in many instances a third party is put forward as the giver of the information, and after the conviction of the offender the detective and his friend divide the reward, in the case of a

reward offered by a private individual even after permission to receive is granted, toll is taken by the 'chiefs' before the remainder is handed over to the recipient.

With regard to the 'inquiry' expenses, which come from a secret service fund practically unlimited, the men complain that whilst the heads of the department - who, by the way, pass their own accounts - spend any sum they choose, the expenses of the men are so rigidly cut down that they are compelled to pay the informers out of their own pockets if they wish to gain a clue, or otherwise risk a bullying for their extravagance. The worst case of all, however, is the cruelly unjust and unfair manner to which divisional (uniform) constables, and more especially young constables, are treated.

No matter how cleverly one of them may affect a capture, discover or prevent a robbery, or recover stolen property, the moment the charge is booked at the police station, that moment the case is taken out of his hands and a detective (plain clothes man) is told off to take charge of the case, find out previous convictions, and, if necessary, prove them, and in the end get all the credit and praise for the manner in which the arrest has been made, and whilst the real discoverer has to content himself with a back seat, or if he does, when in the witness box, give a true account of his share in the transaction, receives a severe reprimand, this begets a sense of injustice, followed by inevitable carelessness.

Lastly, of late, fears of the military system of reporting in writing every trivial circumstance, which reports are seldom read, has been insisted on and a fine inflicted for neglect; whilst in many instances such reports have been handed over to favourites, thus depriving men of the credit of their labour.

This has begotten a want of confidence, which has been increased by the prohibition of the men taking any particular line of their own without first submitting it to the 'chief.'

Until these evils are remedied, there is little hope of an intelligent, energetic, and combined action on the part of the Scotland Yard officers - at least, so say the men themselves.

CANONICAL VICTIM #1: MARY ANN “POLLY” WALKER-NICHOLS

Under the winter skies of January 1864, Mary Ann Walker marries a William Nichols.⁴⁴ The couple consummates the marriage with five children. The three boys were christened Edward John, Percy George, and Henry Alfred; the two girls were christened Alice Esther and Eliza Sarah. Within fifteen years, the marriage cracked and ended. According to Inspector Helson, initially in charge of the Nichols murder case, the ending came due to Mary Ann’s “drunken habits.”⁴⁵ But at the inquest, her father offers a different reason: “When she was confined [with child] her husband took on with the young woman who came to nurse her, and they parted, he living with the nurse, by whom he has another family.”⁴⁶ Mr. Nichols himself stated he had the affair “two and a half years” after Mary Ann deserted him and the children.

LLOYD’S WEEKLY

SEPTEMBER 9, 1888.⁴⁷

Dear Sir,

I hope you will correct an error in your Sunday Edition [September 2nd] in reference to the Whitechapel murder. It is stated that I did not know my own son. That is not so. He left home of his own accord two years and a half ago, and I have always been on speaking terms with him. Only two or three months ago I saw him, and last week received two letters from him, asking me if I knew of any work for him.

I did not leave my wife during her confinement and go away with a nurse girl. The deceased woman deserted me four or five times, if not six. The last time she left me without any home, and five children, the youngest one year and four months. I kept myself with the children where I was living for two and a half years before I took on with anybody, and not till after it was proved at Lambeth Police Court that she had misconducted [prostituted] herself. Yours respectfully,

W. Nichols

⁴⁴ In 1888, Mr. Nichols was a printer’s machinist employed at Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, & Co., in Whitefriars Street and lived at 37, Coburg Road, Old Kent Road.

⁴⁵ Stewart P. Evans & Keith Skinner, *The Ultimate Jack the Ripper Sourcebook: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*, London: Constable & Robinson Ltd., 2000.

Records of the Metropolitan Police, 3/140 ff.235-8.

⁴⁶ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: Daily Telegraph, Sept 3, 1888. Accessed 2014.

http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

⁴⁷ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: Lloyd’s Weekly, Sept 9, 1888. Accessed 2014.

http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

Mr. Nichols goes to the extremes to correct a newspaper report that accused him of not knowing his own son. This suggests he was very concerned in what people said about him. As regards to his out of marital affair, it is suspected to have begun when "it was proved" that his wife prostituted herself, which would allow him to slither out of paying any allowance to her in 1882. The following is what the "Lloyd's Weekly" printed on September 2, 1888, which had Mr. Nichols frustrated enough to correct.

LLOYD'S WEEKLY

SEPTEMBER 2, 1888. ⁴⁸

Last evening, after the inquest on Mary Ann Nichols, the eldest son of the deceased woman arrived at the Whitechapel mortuary and recognized the body as that of his mother. He was respectably dressed, and seemed much affected at her untimely end. He is by trade an engineer, and lives with his grandfather, Mr. Walker, but for some time had not been on speaking terms with his father.

The family history, by those who know them, is stated to have been a sad one. When the separation between the deceased and her husband took place on account of alleged infidelity, Mr. Walker [the father] did what he could for her children. After the separation took place the deceased went to live with a man named Tom Drew, who is a smith living at Walworth. He knew her before she was married, and was her sweetheart before Nichols.

About an hour after the son arrived, her husband, Mr. W. Nichols, came to see the body. He is a machinist, working at Perkins and Bacon's, printers, Fleet Street.

When the meeting between the father and son took place, neither of them spoke to each other, till the deceased's father [Mr. Walker] said to Mr. Nichols, 'Well, here is your son, you see. I have taken care of him, and made a man of him.'

The father then spoke to him and said, 'Well, I really did not know him; he has so grown and altered.'

Then the husband went in to the mortuary to see if he recognized the deceased. He came out ashy white, and simply said, 'Well, there is no mistake about it. It has come to a sad end at last.'

⁴⁸ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: Lloyd's Weekly, Sept 2, 1888. Accessed 2014. http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

A bystander stated to our representative: There was no recrimination between any of them. She did not live with Drew long, for she made away with some of his goods for drink; then he abandoned her, and she went to the workhouse for food. She got a situation at Wandsworth, but she purloined things there, till at last she gradually sank till she had to take up her quarters and become the associate of the evil characters that infest the place where she was found.

From the very instance that Mr. Nichols talks to officials about his wife, be it to a committee for marital support or a coroner and jury at an inquest, he tries his best to create a world around her which seems to be injected -without much supportive evidence except hearsay testimony- that she was a prostitute. We say this because as Neal Shelden noted, “it is difficult to know how long she had lived the life of a streetwalker,” ⁴⁹ if she had actually been one at all at this time of her life. The building up of her life as a prostitute, would, and did allow Mr. Nichols to be relieved of paying any spousal support whatsoever at a time when he had created another family. Motive is rarely unselfish.

Unfortunate or not, by 1884 or 1885, Mary Ann can be traced living with a boyfriend who her father remembers was named Drew. There is some information that this could have been Thomas Stuart Drew living in York Street, Walworth; ⁵⁰ a man employed as a “house smith” something like a metal worker today and had his own business. We do not know how she met this man, though it has been suspected they were childhood sweethearts; but Mr. Nichols at the inquest tells us that he had his wife followed during the year 1882 and injects how he found her living with someone else at the time, which was not Drew.

A JURYMAN: It is said that you were summoned by the Lambeth Union for her maintenance, and you pleaded that she was living with another man. Was he the blacksmith [Drew] whom she had lived with?

⁴⁹ Neal S. Shelden, *The Victims of Jack the Ripper*, Inklings Press, 2007.

⁵⁰ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” *The Victims of Jack the Ripper: Nichols*. Accessed 2014.
<http://www.casebook.org/victims/polly.html>

WITNESS: No; it was not the same; it was another man. I had her watched. ⁵¹

There is no mention if Mr. Nichols was ever asked who it was he had put to shadow his wife. Perhaps if there had been a trial, he would have needed to have given this person's credentials. Being as it was, we only have Mr. Nichols's sayings that his wife was not living with Drew in 1882. Who the other man was is uncertain.

By June of 1886, Mary Ann attended the funeral of her brother who "was burnt to death through the explosion of a paraffin lamp." ⁵² Should she not have been connected with her brother, it is very doubtful she would have attended the funeral. If her brother's tragic death sparked a traumatic moment for her, which led to ignite the fires and explosions that followed behind her, she would today be termed a pyromaniac.

Some adolescents resort to fire setting as a way of coping with crises in their lives and limited family support for dealing with crises. ⁵³ It is interesting to note a profiler's summation, before we leave the subject, created by Dr. James Cook, an American psychologist. Amongst other things, Dr. Cook noted the Ripper "around the age of fifteen," would have had "an unnatural fascination with fire." ⁵⁴

The next important time in Mary Ann's life, was when she left the Lambeth (Parish of St. Mary) Workhouse in the month of April 1888 to take a position as a maid. She is employed at the residence of Samuel and Sarah Cowdry in Rose Hill Road in Wandsworth. ⁵⁵ Mr. Cowdry was the Clerk of Works ⁵⁶ at Wandsworth's Police Department. His responsibility for the police was to account for public contract specifications, measure a contractor's work, regulate construction lines and levels,

⁵¹ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: Daily Telegraph, Sept 4, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

⁵² Edward Walker's testimony at the inquest hearing on September 1, 1888.

⁵³ Rebecca J. Frey, Ph.D. "Federal Emergency Management Agency," *Socioeconomic Factors and the Incidence of Fire*, 1995.

⁵⁴ John J. Eddleston, *Jack the Ripper: An Encyclopedia*, ABC-CLIO, 2001.

⁵⁵ Stewart P. Evans & Keith Skinner, *The Ultimate Jack the Ripper Sourcebook: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*, London: Constable & Robinson Ltd., 2000.

Inspector Joseph H. Helson's Report written on September 7, 1888.

⁵⁶ "The Institute of Clerks of Works." Accessed 2013.

<http://www.icwgb.org/page/default.asp?title=Welcome&pid=1>

and assure the quality of materials used.⁵⁷ Mary Ann writes to her father on April 17, 1888.

I just right to say you will be glad to know that I am settled in my new place, and going all right up to now. My people went out yesterday and have not returned, so I am left in charge. It is a grand place inside, with trees and gardens back and front. All has been newly done up. They are teetotalers and religious so I ought to get on. They are very nice people, and I have not too much to do. I hope you are all right and the boy has work.
So good bye for the present.
From yours truly,
Polly
Answer soon, please, and let me know how you are.

We have no information of where Mary Ann went to school as a child, so we do not know where she learned to read and write. "The majority of these people living in the East End at this time were unable to read or write (compulsory elementary education had only started in the 1870s) so it is unlikely that anyone above the age of 20 had ever gone to school."⁵⁸

Continuing to August 3rd, just three weeks after Mary Ann leaves the Cowdry residence (suspected of having stolen some clothing) and a few days before she is seen lodging at Dean & Flower Street in Whitechapel, a devastating explosion occurs in H.J. Cadwell's toy firework factory, on Merton Road in Wandsworth. At least two young women (Lizzie and Eliza Thornton, aged 21 and 19 respectively) are killed and one Lucy Harwood is seriously injured in the explosion who dies a few days later.⁵⁹

We have no manner in which to confirm exactly what Mary Ann stole from the Cowdry residence, be it clothing or blueprints of establishments, which Mr. Cowdry would have had access to due to his profession.

⁵⁷ Dale Porter, *The Thames Embankment: Environment, Technology & Society in Victorian London*, Akron, Ohio: University of Akron Press, 1998.

⁵⁸ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Message Boards: Charles Brittain: Buck's Row. Accessed 2014.
<http://forum.casebook.org/>

⁵⁹ J.P. Cundill, H.M. Inspector of Explosives, "House of Commons Parliamentary Papers," August 3, 1888, London, Houses of Parliament. British Parliamentary Paper. C-5582. No. LXXXVII.
<http://parlipapers.chadwyck.co.uk/marketing/index.jsp>

Shadwell London Docks had the capability to hold about fifty ships, with its quay and jetty frontage of 45 feet. The two entrances to Shadwell was from the Thames, by basins capable of containing small craft; one at the Hermitage, rarely opened; the other near Wapping Old Stairs, in constant sloe; and a third, the eastern entrance, near Shadwell Dock Stairs. All business of the docks was managed by a Court of Directors, who sat at the London Dock House, in New Bank Buildings, whose capital was an astounding £4,000,000; and “there have been registered, as many as 2,900 labourers employed in the docks in one day.” ⁶⁰

London dock workers waiting for employment



The courts and alleys round about the docks swarmed with low lodging-houses, and were inhabited either by the dock labourers, sack-makers, watermen, or “that peculiar class of London poor who picked up a

precarious living by the water side.” ⁶¹ The open streets themselves had all, more or less, a maritime character. Every other shop was either stocked with gear for the ship or for the sailor. The corners of the streets, too, were mostly monopolized by shop sellers, their windows party-coloured with bright red and blue flannel shirts.

On August 30th, a blazing fire breaks out at Shadwell Dry Dock in the warehouse of Messrs Dible and Co., Engineers. The fire also damaged the rigging of a vessel, *The Connovia*, which was under repair there at the time. ⁶² One can imagine the horror of the spectacle, since “as many as 2,900 labourers [were] employed in the docks in one day,” Mr. Moses Davis, Chairman of Dietz, Davis, & Co., Ltd., of London docks reiterates. He tells us how these dock labourers found some employment in

⁶⁰ Charles Knight, *London*, Vol. III., p. 76.

⁶¹ Henry Mayhew, “Labour & the Poor,” *Morning Chronicle*: October 1849.

⁶² Neil R. Storey, *A Grim Almanac of Jack the Ripper's London 1870-1900*, Sutton Publishing, 2004.

these areas, which was written in an article of the "Echo" newspaper on September 22, 1888.

THE ECHO
SEPTEMBER 22, 1888.

Sir:

Permit me to call attention to the cause of the labourers in the East End Docks, who are known as a hardworking class of men, with small earnings, compelling them to live in low and dirty lodgings, amidst disgusting surroundings, whose sufferings during the winter months it is deplorable to behold.

Being constantly on the spot I notice that, from early morning until past midday, these poor creatures are to be seen attending in the roads and corners, amidst wind, rain, and snow, often stockingless, [sic] with clothes in tatters that are past repair, without food, patiently and submissive to fate, awaiting employment outside the dock gates; and when some of their number are needed, to see them rush, thrusting aside the older and weaker ones, is a sickening sight to behold.

My object in drawing public attention is, firstly, that these wretched beings shall, before the winter sets in again, have some shelter provided for them, either within the dock gates or nearby, in order that they may have protection from the inclement weather, and where a cup of tea or coffee, with bread, or soup, can be provided at the cost of one penny; and secondly, that they might have their names or numbers called when the managers of the Dock Company have work for them, and prevent that unseemly rush for work, in which doubtless those who deserve it most have not the strength to struggle for it.

I would most earnestly invite all those who are interested in suffering humanity to see for themselves the above facts. Some years since, my friend, the Rev. Mr. Greatorex, of St. Paul's, Dock Street, failed to induce the managers of the London and St. Katherine Dock Company to provide this much needed shelter. I shall therefore be glad of the names of those who are willing to co-operate.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,
Moses Davis, Chairman
London Docks.
September 20, 1888.

These docks in general had a direct railway communication with the Victoria Docks belonging to the Great Eastern and Western Railway, with a special rail branch running from the Western End of Lemn Street Station close to H-Division Police station, to the foot of the great jetty in the Western Dock.⁶³ To this day, no specific reasons have come down to us in an official capacity as to how this tremendous fire broke out, and neither do we have any reports of the destruction of the other fire that broke out in less than 24 hours, on August 31st, at a liquor warehouse in the South and Spirit Quay of the Pool of London.⁶⁴ August 31st was symbolized by the Catholics in celebrating St. Raymund, the patron saint of childbirth, midwives, children, pregnant women, and priests who wanted to protect the secrecy of confession. It was also a day Mary Ann “Polly” Walker-Nichols will be killed.

The very first account that would compromise the Nichols murder case would be the day her body is found on August 31, 1888. The “Evening News” captures the details of her horrendous murder committed in the early hours at Buck’s Row of Whitechapel in haunting despair. The newspaper describes how a constable found the body; the time the body was found; the wounds inflicted on the body; what the victim wore; and the description of how the body was seen when brought to the mortuary at 04:30,⁶⁵ though this time will be challenged later on. Whoever leaked these initial details to the newspaper knew very well that the police would now be in expectation to be flooded with circumstantial evidence, hearsay testimony, and prank letters claiming to be the killer(s). Such leaks happened either for money and/or the case had to be compromised in its initial stage.

Whatever the case, there are two groups, if you will, who could compromise this police investigation. The first group would have been the police themselves. It was not unusual for some officers to be on the take, as it was reported to have happened in 1885 when some policemen were in cahoots with brothels notifying them of potential raids.

⁶³ Charles Dickens (Jr.), *Dickens’s Dictionary of the Thames*, 1881.

⁶⁴ Neil R. Storey, *A Grim Almanac of Jack the Ripper’s London 1870-1900*, Sutton Publishing, 2004.

⁶⁵ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: Evening News, Aug 31, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

AROHA NEWS**SEPTEMBER 5, 1885.**

It is absurd to attempt to cure the mischief by increasing an arbitrary police power. It proves that police, generally, with some honourable exceptions, receive regular payment from abandoned women, besides insisting on having favours.

The lewd women of London fully understand that unless they regularly bribe policemen they must quit London or otherwise be arrested and annoyed by trumped-up charges. The strongest Freemasonry among policemen exists in this direction.

One keeper says: 'The police are our best friends. They keep things snug, and brothel-keepers are the policemen's best friends, because they pay them. I only keep a small house, but pay the police £3 weekly.'

Many researchers of the Ripper crimes have supported a non-communicative link between the Victorian police and journalists. Yet, from evidence already given, such a claim could be debated; even more so when we read what Sir Charles Warren wrote in his report of September 19, 1888, how "the reporters for the press are following our detectives about everywhere, in search of news and cross examining all parties interviewed, so that they impeded police action greatly." ⁶⁶

The second group who were capable of compromising the Nichols police investigation would have been the insiders; specifically, the small community living in Whitechapel. Since they lived and breathed the area, they would have known who to talk to in order to gather the information needed, give it to the press, receive some notoriety with the reporters (as they had when the Trafalgar Square riots took place) and also have some coins dropped into callous hands. Whichever group it was, the Nichols case was now compromised.

⁶⁶ Stewart P. Evans & Keith Skinner, *The Ultimate Jack the Ripper Sourcebook: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*, London: Constable & Robinson Ltd., 2000.
Home Office, 144/221/A49301, ff. 90-2.

East Middlesex Coroner
Wynne Edwin Baxter
(1844-1920) ⁶⁷



The inquest into Mary Ann's murder opens on Saturday, September 1, 1888, the following afternoon after she had been discovered in Buck's Row, "a comparatively unfrequented thoroughfare, especially at night." ⁶⁸ The inquiries into her death are held at the Working Lads' Institute at 137, Whitechapel Road, ⁶⁹ a few doors away from the medical officer's surgery at No. 152. Both locations were 300 yards from where the body was found.

Inquests, like a noisy argument in a drawing-room, had the characteristic where "at a large table are seated the reporters; in the centre is the witness-box; while at the back are rows of chairs which are occupied by members of the public - disheveled women, curiosity-mongers, and the like -and those witnesses who are able to control their feelings. Witnesses who are inclined to be hysterical are confined in the waiting-room- if there happens to be one - until they are required to give evidence." ⁷⁰

Among the earliest uses to which the phonograph may advantageously have been put to use, was the recording of evidence in courts of justice. A newspaper took into account its use, and noted on the pedantic procedures it caused without it:-

DAILY NEWS

SEPTEMBER 11, 1888.

Nobody can be present in court for a quarter of an hour without being struck by the sad waste of everybody's time involved in the tedious process of taking down the evidence of witnesses word by word. To the lazy mind it is not very clear why

⁶⁷ "Wikipedia": Wynne Edwin Baxter. Accessed 2014.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wynne_Edwin_Baxter

⁶⁸ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: The Echo, Aug 31, 1888. Accessed 2014.

http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

⁶⁹ The National Archives, *Working Lads' Institute and Home* (later Whitechapel House, Tulse Hill and 3 Maples Place) ACC/1926/C: The Working Lads' Institute was founded by Henry Hill, a city merchant. The establishment remained a hostel for boys not on probation and began to concentrate on the 17-21 age group, particularly once the hostel moved out of London 1943-1948 to Whitechapel House, Tulse Hill. Compulsory purchase of Whitechapel House in 1971 forced the Mission to move the hostel to other premises, and it moved back to Whitechapel, to 3, Maples Place. The hostel closed in 1973.

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/records.aspx?cat=074-acc1926&cid=3#3>

⁷⁰ George R. Sims, *Living London*, Vol. I. (London: Cassell & Co., Ltd., 1902).

shorthand, which is sufficient for almost all other purposes under the sun, is not to be trusted for this.

At the latest Whitechapel inquest, [Chapman's,] for example, a great number of witnesses, policemen, jurymen, and others, are detained three times as long for the recording of the evidence by the deliberate longhand system of Mr. Baxter as is necessary for the mere hearing of testimony.

Business is interrupted, justice is impeded, expense is incurred, and everybody grows tired of the slow procedure, simply because it is deemed necessary to dribble out what has to be said sentence by sentence, with long pauses between.

When each witness box has, as a part of its furniture, an infallible recorder of words and tones, hesitations, and emphases, for reference wherever and whenever required, the summons to serve on a jury will be a far less serious matter, the steps of Justice will be quickened, and the cost of legal proceedings will be considerable reduced.

It is unknown where Baxter had safe kept the minutes written by him from the Ripper cases. Being he was an antiquarian, he would not have allowed such documents to be given to government registries without first acquiring them to be copied. Yet, "none of Baxter's inquest papers, including the Ripper files, have ever been discovered, despite searches in the various government archives, personal family files, educational institutions, and archives of Wynne-Baxter and Keeble. The correct deposit for inquest papers, the London Metropolitan Archives at Northampton Row, holds extensive volumes of Coroners' Registers for the Counties of Middlesex and London (catalogue COR/A), including the Western District for 1856-1930, the North Eastern District for 1921-1932, and the all-important Eastern District for 1925-1934. Not a single file from Baxter's 30,000-plus inquests during 1886-1920 is held. It's possible that these were destroyed, but given Baxter's precise and studious nature it seems impossible that he didn't store the papers somewhere." ⁷¹

⁷¹ Adam Wood's Dissertation: "Inquest, London: The Life and Career of Wynne Edwin Baxter." Originally appeared in *Ripperologist* No. 61, September 2005.
<http://www.casebook.org/dissertations/rip-baxter.html>

As mentioned, it seems impossible Baxter did not have the documents copied for his own collection; antiquarians are addicted to owning such precious documents as they foresee their future value on the literary market. Baxter must have been a member of some antiquarian society at the time, though this has never been established; and, being that Baxter's son was also an antiquarian,⁷² perhaps these inquest documents will never surface for the public domain.

It is worthwhile noticing that the office of coroner was established in England in 1194 and created solely for fiscal reasons, "to ensure the Crown received any money due on the death of a subject, rather than as a means to identify homicides."⁷³ Each coroner operated within a defined territory, either a county or part of a county, or a borough that had received royal approval to appoint a coroner of its own.⁷⁴ In 1836, the Medical Witnesses Act introduced a statutory payment of one guinea (£1.1s.) for medical practitioners giving evidence at inquests, or two guineas if the coroner had ordered a post-mortem examination. The Inquest Expenses Act of 1837 transferred these fees to the county rates, together with the other incidental expenses, and also increased the coroner's personal fee for each inquest by one third to £1.6s.8d. The Inquest Expenses Act (1 Victoria, c.68) "was necessary as in 1836 the Poor Law Commission had ruled that the expenses of inquests could not be met from local poor rates."⁷⁵

As to the witnesses, here is what a newspaper accounted:-

**LLOYD'S WEEKLY
SEPTEMBER 30, 1888.**

There is great indignation at the East-end over the shabby treatment of witnesses. On their summonses was printed in red letters across the subpoena:

N.B. - Bring this summons with you. All fees and expenses are required by the Act of Vic., cap. 68. sec. 1, to be advanced

⁷² London Borough of Hackney, Wynne E Baxter archives. Page updated: 15 Jun 2010. Accessed 2013.
<http://www.hackney.gov.uk/c-archives-comprehensive-page12.htm>

⁷³ R.F. Hunnisett, *The Medieval Coroner*, Cambridge, 1961.

⁷⁴ Municipal Corporations Act, 5-6, William IV, c.76.

⁷⁵ Stewart P. Evans & Keith Skinner, *The Ultimate Jack the Ripper Sourcebook: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*, London: Constable & Robinson Ltd., 2000.
The National Archives, Home Office 84/1, 1836.

and paid by the coroner immediately after the termination of the inquest to such witnesses as the coroner may think fit to allow.

Mr. [Robert] Paul says that after he made his statement to our representative, which appeared in Lloyd's [September 2nd,] he was fetched up in the middle of the night by the police, and was obliged to lose a day's work the next day, for which he got nothing. He was then summoned to give evidence at the inquest on two different days, and he had to pay a man 5s. each day to do his work, or he would have lost his place.

At the close of the inquest [September 22nd] he got two shillings, being a shilling for each day.

The witness referred to above, Robert Paul, is unavoidable to mention in many aspects of this case, and we will soon be upon him. As to how the jury was selected, comes from an article in the "Morning Advertiser."

MORNING ADVERTISER
SEPTEMBER 3, 1888

Yesterday, the lists of the names of those persons liable to serve as special and common jurymen in England and Wales during the year were exhibited on the doors of every church, chapel, and other public places of worship over England and Wales, where they can be inspected by everyone, and where they will remain during the next two Sundays.

Every person whose name appears in these lists will be liable to serve as a jurymen except those who are over 60 years of age, and those among others who are exempt by reason of being peers, Members of Parliament, judges, clergymen, Roman Catholic priests, members of the bar, solicitors, officers of the Law Courts, coroners, doctors, the household servants of Her Majesty, the officers of the Post Office, Customs and Inland Revenue, Magistrates, and their staffs, and others.

During the last week in this month the justices of the peace in every division in England and Wales will hold a special petty session for the purpose of correcting the lists, and of allowing any objection to serve which may be substantiated.

With investigative procedures held so speedily after Mary Ann's body was found, and the investigation compromised, it fell to the police officers to locate witnesses and present their physical evidence within 20 hours; this, after most of their low paid uniformed officers had worked overtime in battling crowd control at the London docks where two immense fires had broken out; one on August 30th and another on August 31st.

Inspector Helson of Bethnal Green Division was in charge of the case on behalf of C.I.D. who was able to locate one witness, Edward Walker who was the father, and one of their own would testify; a Constable John Neil who was initially suspected of finding the body. Though there were at least two other constables who were present with John Neil after finding the body, they were not called to testify on the first day of the inquest. One more witness was guaranteed to be present and this was the medical officer, Dr. Llewellyn, who first examined the body at Buck's Row, and thrice later at the mortuary.

Inspector Helson and his officers did not present any physical evidence because no weapon or blood spatter had been found around or upon Mary Ann's body; moreover, she was not photographed (or sketched) upon discovery -at least no such image have come down to us through the centuries.

The second day of the inquest was held on Monday, September 3rd, where many changes occurred in regards to what was initially said. The witnesses testifying this day were Inspectors Spratling and Helson; Henry Tomkins who was a horse-slaughterer; Constable G. Mizen; Charles Andrew Cross who also claimed to have found the body; William Nichols the lover-husband; Jane Oram (or Ellen Holland) the last person suspected to have seen Mary Ann alive; and Mary Monk an acquaintance.

The third day of the inquest was held on Monday, September 17th where ten witnesses were called to testify: Dr. Llewellyn was recalled; Emma Green a neighbour; Thomas Ede who was a witness presenting testimony on Chapman's murder; Walter Purkiss a neighbour; Patrick Mulshaw a night porter; Constable J. Thain; Robert Paul who claimed to have found the body; Robert Mann the mortuary assistant; James Hatfield another mortuary assistant; and Inspector Spratling who was recalled.

The fourth and final day of the inquest was held on Saturday, September 22nd where only one witness was recalled, Thomas Ede in regards to Chapman's murder. The coroner gave his summation, and the jury returned a verdict of "willful murder against some person or persons unknown." No trial ever began for the murder of Mary Ann "Polly" Walker-Nichols.



The only photograph of Mary Ann Nichols at the mortuary is now in the National Archives with catalogue number (MEPO) 3/3155, though it is not filed under their key documents. The many reproductions of this photograph, available in the [public domain](#), has somewhat distorted its originality, but certain factors can still be seen on the face.

What day the photograph was actually captured is uncertain. Morgue photos were taken to

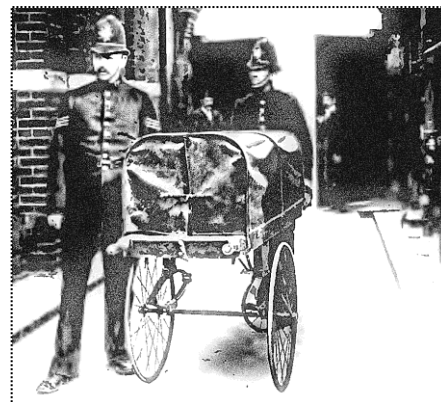
show the victim to various citizens in order to fix identity. From what is reported, Inspector Helson identified the victim from a tag on her clothes being owned by the infirmary where she stayed; this was the same day she was found and prior the taking of the mortuary photograph. It is not known if this photo was shown for identification purposes. If it wasn't, then it is unsure why the photo was captured in the first place; Mary Ann had yet to be categorized as a Ripper victim.

The police photographer at the time was Joseph Thomas Martin ⁷⁶ who succeeded George Louis Gumprecht in 1886. Joseph Martin's studios were at 11, Cannon Street Road, from 1887 till 1893. Apart from being a "corpse photographer" as they used to call them, Martin played in orchestras of steamships which plied from London Bridge to Southend and narrowly avoided being on board the *Princess Alice* when she sank after a collision in 1878. He did not however avoid an accident and was knocked down by a tramcar in East India Dock Road in 1933 and died of his injuries. ⁷⁷

The first forensic report on Mary Ann's death comes from the medical officer, Dr. Llewellyn. The examination was made at the scene where the body was found on Friday, August 31, 1888, in Buck's Row. After being called to the scene by Constable Thain, the medical officer noticed the following:-

Victorian Police ambulance
[public domain](#)

- Victim was quite dead upon medical arrival
- Body was lying face up with legs extended
- Severe injuries to the throat
- Very little blood around the neck
- Hands and wrists cold
- Lower extremities quite warm
- Victim's heart checked
- No marks of struggle
- Estimated time of death: Half an hour prior medical officer's arrival



Though Dr. Llewellyn established there were no marks of struggle, the "Eastern Post & City Chronicle" of September 1st reported "the hands are bruised, and bear evidence of having engaged in a severe struggle." Which report was correct, would be open for interpretation, but many researchers have gone with Dr. Llewellyn's report on this matter yet singled out his other forensic opinions. This is a typical manner to follow; the picking and choosing of evidence to create a theory, which many researchers resolve to.

⁷⁶ (b.1848-d.1933)

⁷⁷ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: East London Advertiser, Oct 21, 1933. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

The second forensic report on Mary Ann can be found (presumably dictated) in Inspector Spratling's Report, dated August 31, 1888, the same day the medical officer examined the body in Buck's Row. Dr. Llewellyn testified he was recalled to reexamine the body at the mortuary. This, he said, was an hour later at 05:30 after the inspector discovered the victim had been "disemboweled." Inspector Spratling gives the following subsequent report from Dr. Llewellyn:-

- Throat cut left to right, with two cuts on the left side
- Windpipe gullet and spinal cord cut through
- Bruise of a thumb on right lower jaw and on the left cheek
- Abdomen cut
- Two small stabs afflicted on the private parts
- Slight laceration of the tongue

Though the inspector tells us Dr. Llewellyn noticed two small stabs on the private parts, this particular forensic evidence was never disclosed at the inquest, perhaps on the account that the police needed this information kept from the public either to see if the killer would refer to it in any future letter/note, or the editors of the newspapers decided to withhold the information for decency purposes. Anything goes. Prior Dr. Llewellyn's inquest testimony on September 1, 1888, he makes the following statement to a reporter from the "Evening News" which was printed the same day. This was the same day Dr. Llewellyn did a third examination, which was a complete autopsy, performed by him and his assistant, Mr. Seccombe, at ten o'clock in the morning, prior their arrival at the inquest.

I was called to Buck's Row, about five minutes to four ⁷⁸ this morning by Police Constable Thane, who said a woman had been murdered. I went to the place at once, and found deceased lying on her back with her legs out straight as though she had been laid down. Police Constable Neil told me that the body had not been touched.

⁷⁸ The Times newspaper of September 3, 1888, reported Dr. Llewellyn said that Constable Thain arrived at his surgery at 04:00.

The throat was cut from ear to ear, and the woman was quite dead. On feeling the extremities of the body, I found that they were still warm, showing that death had not long ensued.

A crowd was now gathering, and as it was undesirable to make a further examination in the street, I ordered the removal of the body to the mortuary, telling the police to send for me again if anything of importance transpired.

There was a very small pool of blood on the pathway, which had trickled from the wound in the throat, not more than would fill two wineglasses, or half a pint at the outside. This fact, and the way in which the deceased was lying, made me think at the time that it was at least probable that the murder was committed elsewhere, and the body conveyed to Buck's Row.

There were no marks of blood on deceased's legs, and at the time I had no idea of the fearful abdominal wounds which had been inflicted upon the body. At half-past five I was summoned to the mortuary by the police, and was astonished at finding the other wounds.

I have seen many horrible cases, but never such a brutal affair as this. From the nature of the cuts on the throat it is probable that they were inflicted with the left hand. There is a mark at the point of the jaw on the right side of deceased's face, as though made by a person's thumb, and a similar bruise on the left side as if the woman's head had been pushed back and her throat then cut. There is a gash under the left ear reaching nearly to the centre of the throat, and another cut apparently starting from the right ear. The neck is severed back to the vertebrae, which is also slightly injured.

The abdominal wounds are extraordinary for their length and the severity with which they have been inflicted. One cut extends from the base of the abdomen to the breastbone. Deceased's clothes were loose, and the wounds could have been inflicted while she was dressed.

The "Daily News" of September 3rd reported that Constable Neil had told Constable Thain "here's a woman has cut her throat. Run at once for Dr. Llewellyn." The former clearly announced Mary Ann had cut her own throat. Yet Dr. Llewellyn tells us P.C. Thain informed him she had "been murdered." Even so, the medical

officer at his testimony makes it clear “he was quite certain that the injury to her throat was not self inflicted,” which gives some credit to the “Daily News” report.

On entering the inquest area, Dr. Llewellyn went into specific details of his findings, which we have chosen reports from the “Daily Telegraph” and “Daily News”; both newspapers were published on September 1, 1888.

Daily Telegraph: The face

I have this morning [September 1st] made a post-mortem examination of the body. I found it to be that of a female about forty or forty-five years. Five of the teeth are missing, and there is a slight laceration of the tongue.⁷⁹ On the right side of the face there is a bruise running along the lower part of the jaw. It might have been caused by a blow with the fist or pressure by the thumb. On the left side of the face there was a circular bruise, which also might have been done by the pressure of the fingers.

Daily News: The face and the neck

At ten o'clock that (Saturday) morning, [September 1st,] in the presence of his assistant, he [Dr. Llewellyn] began a post mortem examination. On the right side of the face was a recent and strongly marked bruise, which was scarcely perceptible when he first saw the body. It might have been caused either by a blow from a fist or by the pressure of the thumb. On the left side of the face was a circular bruise, which might have been produced in the same way. A small bruise was on the left side of the neck, and an abrasion on the right. All must have been done at the same time.

The “Daily News” gives us more detailed information on the markings found on the face and neck. On the left side of the neck was a small bruise, and an abrasion injury on the right side. A most common occurrence of abrasions is when exposed skin comes into moving contact with a rough surface, causing a grinding or rubbing away of the upper layers of the epidermis. However inflicted, it is an interesting injury.

Daily Telegraph: The neck incisions

On the left side of the neck, about an inch below the jaw, there was an incision about four inches long and running from a point immediately below the ear. An inch below on the same

⁷⁹ Bringham, Herr, Aldous, *Oral trauma in the emergency department*. Am J Emerg Med. September 1993: “A tongue laceration is often the result of a fall, seizure, or other blunt force mechanism.”

side, and commencing about an inch in front of it, was a circular incision terminating at a point about three inches below the right jaw. This incision completely severs all the tissues down to the vertebrae. The large vessels of the neck on both sides were severed. The incision [second one] is about eight inches long. These cuts must have been caused with a long-bladed knife, moderately sharp, and used with great violence. No blood at all was found on the breast either of the body or clothes.

Daily News: The neck incisions

There were two cuts in the throat, one four inches long and the other eight, and both reaching to the vertebrae, which had also been penetrated. The wounds must have been inflicted with a strong bladed knife, moderately sharp, and used with great violence. It appeared to have been held in the left hand of the person who had used it. No blood at all was found on the front of the woman's clothes. The body was fairly well nourished and there was no smell of alcohol in the stomach.

Once again the "Daily News" offers more details. That Dr. Llewellyn stated the throat cuts were inflicted by a left-handed individual, was contradicted at the time, having the medical officer change his opinion. As regards to detecting no alcohol odor, this was also reported in the "Lloyd's Weekly" of September 2nd. The paper distinctly states no alcohol odor present on the entire body, but it seems from the medical officer's answer, that he also had done a chemical analysis of the stomach contents and could not find any presence of alcohol.

CORONER: There was no smell of drink?

WITNESS [Dr. Llewellyn]: No; and there was none in the stomach.

Daily Telegraph: The abdominal injuries

There were no injuries about the body till just about the lower part of the abdomen. Two or three inches from the left side was a wound running in a jagged manner.⁸⁰ It was a very deep wound, and the tissues were cut through. There were several incisions running across the abdomen. On the right side there were also three or four similar cuts running downwards. All these had been caused by a knife, which had

⁸⁰ Jagged wounds are usually inflicted by a blunt instrument and/or whilst there is motion.

been used violently and been used downwards. The wounds were from left to right, and might have been done by a left-handed person. All the injuries had been done by the same instrument.

Daily News: The abdominal injuries

On the abdomen were some seven cuts and stabs, which the witness described in detail. Nearly all the blood had been drained out of the arteries and veins, and collected to a large extent in the loose tissues. The deceased's wound were sufficient to cause instantaneous death.

Notice should be taken with the "Daily News" report, and how they reveal to us the blood from the abdomen wound have -"to a large extent"- drained "in the loose tissues." This circumstantial evidence prevails today, and remains to justify (for many) the lack of blood around the victim's legs. More on this subject will be dealt with later. The "Lloyd's Weekly" also printed an interview given to them by the medical officer:-

LLOYD'S WEEKLY SEPTEMBER 2, 1888.

An interview was had with Dr. Llewellyn, who was formerly a house surgeon of the London hospital, and he most courteously gave his opinion of the manner of the murder.

In effect he said that the woman was killed by the cuts in the throat - there are two, and the throat is divided back to the vertebrae. He had called the attention of the police to the smallness of the quantity of blood on the spot where he saw the body, and yet the gashes in the abdomen laid the body right open.

The weapon used would scarcely have been a sailor's jack knife but a pointed weapon with a stout back, such as a cork cutter's or shoemaker's knife. In Dr. Llewellyn's opinion it was not an exceptionally long-bladed weapon.

He does not believe that the woman was seized from behind and her throat cut, but thinks a hand was held across her mouth, and the knife then used, possibly by a left-handed man, as the bruising on the face of deceased is such as would result from the mouth being covered with the right hand. He made a second examination of the body in the mortuary, [August 31st,] and on that based his conclusion.

On the third day of the inquest (September 17th) Dr. Llewellyn is recalled to state how after examining Mary Ann again -this would be a fourth examination that had to have taken place between September 2nd and September 6th until she was buried- he could offer the coroner and jury the information that she did have “an old scar” on her forehead, corroborating her father’s testimony of September 1st, and that no part of her internal organs ⁸¹ were missing. It is unknown why the medical doctor needed to reexamine the body for missing organs between September 2nd till burial day on September 6th. No previous murder, as far as can be researched, had such an atrocity linked to it. The next canonical murder was on September 8th, two days after Nichols had been buried. However, when Dr. Llewellyn was recalled, he must have been asked by a juror about missing organs, due to Chapman’s murder on September 8th, where the killer had removed the uterus.

The mortuary where medical officers had to do their examinations, was given solely for use by the Union Authorities since there was no public morgue at the time; but it was only a shed at Eagle Place on Old Montague Street, a hundred yards from Buck’s Row and behind the “illegitimate” Pavilion Hall ⁸² that opened in 1828, the developer being named in the magazine “The Builder” as “Miss Connaughton (Mrs. Donald Munro).” The building was only marked as “illegitimate” because a license was never procured to produce plays or to provide entertainment but remained open regardless. After Mrs. Munro’s death in 1894, leases on the Pavilion Music Hall were granted to various parties, ⁸³ and the establishment had the misfortune to burn down twice till it finally closed in 1935. During WWII the Pavilion suffered extensive damage from the bombings, including a third fire, and was finally demolished in 1961. As to the mortuary, a new one was erected in 1889 at the South East corner of the workhouse site with an entrance from Thomas Street. ⁸⁴

⁸¹ The word viscera refers to all internal organs in the chest, abdomen, and pelvis.

⁸² “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: People, Sept 2, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

⁸³ Ian Munro, *A Scots/Irish Family in the East End of London*, first published 1980 in the “Journal of the East of London: Family History Society;” Republished in the Journal 1999.

<http://www.genealogy.com/users/m/u/n/Ian-Munro-Surrey/FILE/0020page.html>

⁸⁴ Peter Higginbotham, “The Workhouse” Whitechapel (and Spitalfields) Middlesex, London.
<http://www.workhouses.org.uk/Whitechapel/>

Apart from Dr. Llewellyn's autopsy report, he also told the inquest his estimated time of death when Mary Ann was killed: Not more than half an hour prior his arrival at the scene. Since body weight plays a role in its loss of temperature after death, we need to take this into consideration. The heavier the physique and the greater the obesity of the body, the slower will be the heat loss. Mary Ann was not obese, but she was not slim either if we take into consideration her mortuary photograph and also witness testimony: "The body was fairly well nourished."⁸⁵

Since the body was found in a supine position, Mary Ann would lose only 80 percent of her body heat of the total surface area; the remaining percentage would be protected by her clothing as they insulate the body from the environment.⁸⁶ In addition, the "Evening News" tells us "it was a fine night,"⁸⁷ which would also influence body temperature.

In order we find the time Dr. Llewellyn estimates, we need to find out what time he arrived at Buck's Row, since he himself did not give this information. The medical officer says he was "called at his surgery by P.C. Neil" at 04:00 and in another newspaper it was 5 minutes earlier. We can safely say, that the medical officer sees P.C. Thain (sent by P.C. Neil) at his surgery at 03:55, or 04:00. Dr. Llewellyn's surgery is at 152, Whitechapel Road, a mere 300 yards from Buck's Row which is about a 4 minute walk. Being lenient, if it took the good doctor 5 minutes to become presentable and 5 minutes to arrive at the scene, being it was still dark, we can safely give a timeframe of his arrival to be around 04:05 or 04:10, putting Mary Ann's estimated time of death roughly between 03:40 and 04:10.

If one wishes to go according to Inspector Spratling's Report -"Dr. Llewellyn pronounced life to be extinct, apparently but a few minutes"- Mary Ann would have expired around the time of the medical officer's arrival. But if this is so, then she would have still been hanging on to life when P.C. Neil found her at 03:45. Though the constable testified the upper limbs were warm, he did not specifically notice Mary

⁸⁵ Dr. Llewellyn's inquest testimony as published in the Daily News, September 3, 1888.

⁸⁶ Derrick J. Pounder, Department of Forensic Medicine, University of Dundee, 1995.

⁸⁷ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: Evening News, Sept 3, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

Ann was barely alive; this was injected into a story by Robert Paul, the witness who gave an interview to the newspapers on August 31, 1888. He will however change his story at the inquest as we shall see further down.

P.C. Neil, in his testimony on the first day of the inquest, informs us of the items found on Mary Ann Nichols: A piece of comb, a bit of looking-glass, and an unmarked white pocket handkerchief. A newspaper article in the "Evening News" printed August 31st, reports how an "impression of a ring having been worn" was noticed, but the reporter could not get any further information such as if the ring "had been wrenched from her in a struggle." Another report from the "Times" printed September 4th, stated "certain flash rings were torn from Nichols's finger." Which was the case, is terribly difficult to ascertain, but Dr. Llewellyn testified at the inquest when he was recalled on September 17th that he saw "marks of rings on the fingers," but did not think "she had worn any for five or six weeks" prior her murder.

The clothes Mary Ann was wearing were described by police officials. It should be kept in mind that she was a pauper; therefore all her clothing would have been secondhand and would not have been of the fashionable type. In the September 1st edition of the "Echo," it's reported that Mary Ann also wore a cloak; and yet no such garment was ever described in the official police reports.

THE ECHO**SEPTEMBER 1, 1888.**

Dr. Ralph Llewellyn made a post mortem examination of the body this morning, the injuries are even more extensive than he at first supposed. It is his impression that she was not murdered at the spot where her body was found, but that her throat was cut, the dreadful abdominal injuries then inflicted, and that the body was then carried, enveloped in her large, heavy cloak, and thrown outside the gateway at Essex Wharf.

Mr. Seccombe, Dr. Llewellyn's assistant, is of the same opinions, especially, he says, as there was comparatively little blood where the deceased lay.

Further down in the report, the coroner asks Inspector Spratling: “Where was the blood?” The inspector replied, “on the upper part of the body of the dress, and on the cloak. There was no blood on the petticoat.”



A dress with **blood** soaked into the material on the upper section.



A brown or reddish Ulster with seven large brass buttons depicting the figure of a female riding a horse and a man at her side. Inspector Helson reported the garment was saturated with **blood**.



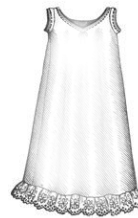
Two grey woolen petticoats - one flannel. Inspector Spratling reported no blood on the petticoats.



Brown stays (corset) short to the hip. No blood was found.



A pair of men's SS boots cut on the “uppers” with tips on the heels.



A white chemise. **Blood** found on this undergarment.



A brown Lindsey frock; **blood** was soaked into the material on the upper section.



A white chest flannel. No blood was found.



A pair of black (or blue) ribbed woolen stockings. No blood was found on these stockings.



A black velvet trimmed straw bonnet.

It is interesting to notice how the blood seen, and found, on the garments had definitely come from the two incisions to the throat and none from the abdomen mutilation; not even drops from the blade that ripped at it.

The mortuary assistants were Robert Mann and James Hatfield, pauper inmates of the Whitechapel Workhouse, known as “The Spike” (or “The Loaferies”).⁸⁸ Both men could not read or write. The first to arrive at the mortuary, on August 31st around 05:00, was Robert Mann. He sees the police ambulance in the mortuary yard where Inspector Spratling and P.C. Thain were taking a preliminary description of Mary Ann’s body. Allowed to transfer the victim into the mortuary, or a shed would be more appropriate, Robert Mann sees the inspector make a further description and sees him leave; it is unknown what the constable did.

We do not know if the inspector gave instructions to Robert Mann not to touch the body, or if the clothes were taken off so the inspector could get a better look. Neither do we know if the inspector told Robert Mann about the additional abdominal wounds found on the victim’s body. What we do know, according to Robert Mann’s testimony, is that he locks up the mortuary, goes for breakfast, only to return at 06:30 with James Hatfield and then prepare the victim for Dr. Llewellyn’s examination, which according to the medical officer’s testimony, was done the following day.

WITNESS PATRICK MULSHAW (or EDWARD MULEHAM)

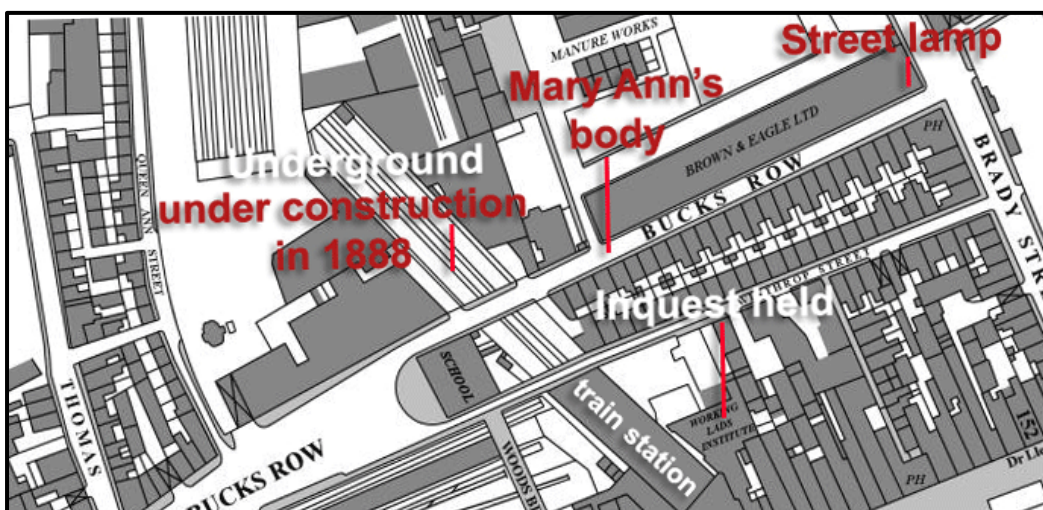
ARRIVED AT BUCK’S ROW AT 04:41

Patrick Mulshaw, a night watchman for the Whitechapel District Board of Works,⁸⁹ on the third day of the inquest is called to testify. He worked at the same official board where Mary Ann’s previous employer worked, and it would be interesting if Patrick Mulshaw and Mr. Cowdry of Wandsworth knew each other. Patrick Mulshaw lived at 3, Rupert Street, over an hour’s walk to Buck’s Row and the Working Lads’

⁸⁸ J. Redding Ware, *Passing English of the Victorian Era*, London: George Routledge & Sons, Ltd. Undated.

⁸⁹ Whitechapel’s “District Board of Works” whose members were the Clerk, Alfred Turner; the Medical Officer of Health, John Liddle; the Surveyor, William La Riviere; and the Analyst, William C. Young.

Institute in Winthrop Street, where he was on duty on August 31, 1888, as a watchman to some sewage works.



Courtesy of "[Casebook](#)"

Patrick Mulshaw tells us that though he usually captured a few winks during his 13 hour shift, on August 31st he was awake between 03:00 and 04:00. During his shift this night, he "saw two constables, including Constable Neil," but couldn't remember the time he saw the latter. As we see it, three police officers had passed the Working Lads' Institute in Winthrop Street during this night. "At 04:40 a man coming past said, 'I say, old man, a woman has been murdered up yonder.' On going to the spot I saw the deceased, and a doctor examining her." This was reported by "The Star" on September 3rd and also by the "Morning Advertiser" on September 18th.⁹⁰ The "Times" only reported that Patrick Mulshaw saw "the body of deceased lying on the ground" and also "three or four policemen and five or six working men were there." No mention of "a doctor examining her" at the time.

Patrick Mulshaw walked 50 yards (150 feet) from his post to Buck's Row; a mere 1 minute walk would have him on the spot at 04:41. We can say, that the initial examination in Buck's Row could not have taken Dr. Llewellyn more than 15 to 20

⁹⁰ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: Morning Advertiser, Sept 18, 1888. Accessed 2014. http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

minutes; it was dark, it was cold (10° Celsius - 50° Fahrenheit), ⁹¹ and the victim was “quite dead.” Yet, according to two newspaper reports, Patrick Mulshaw saw the doctor still examining the body at 04:41. Dr. Llewellyn arrived at 04:10, if remembered. If Patrick Mulshaw saw the medical officer at 04:41, the latter would have been at Buck’s Row for a total of 40 minutes, allowing the body then to have been transferred from the area between 04:41 and 04:49. It would take the traveling distance -from Buck’s Row to the Mortuary with an awkward police ambulance over cobbled stone- about 7 minutes, having it arrive at the mortuary about 04:56, just one minute prior Inspector Spratling’s arrival. On the other hand, if Dr. Llewellyn did not take more than 15 to 20 minutes to examine the body, he would have been out of the area by the time Patrick Mulshaw arrived at 04:41, which would corroborate the “Evening News” report, that the body was seen when brought to the mortuary at 04:30, ⁹² but way too early for Inspector Spratling’s arrival, which was at 04:57. Anything goes.

INSPECTOR SPRATLING

ARRIVED AT BUCK’S ROW AT 04:50

The inspector hears of Mary Ann’s murder “about half-past four” while he is in Hackney Road, a good 5 minute ride from Buck’s Row. If he walked it, he would have needed a good 20 minutes to get to the spot making his arrival at ten to five.

INSPECTOR SPRATLING

ARRIVED AT THE MORTUARY AT 04:57

Upon being informed that Mary Ann’s body had already been transferred to the mortuary, Inspector Spratling must have lingered for a minute, then left Buck’s Row to walk a good 6 minutes to the mortuary, arriving around 04:57, just one minute prior the arrival of the body -according to the “Morning Advertiser” report- or 30

⁹¹ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” The Victims of Jack the Ripper: Mary Ann Nichols. “Testimonies of Charles Cross and P.C. John Neil.” Accessed 2014.

<http://www.casebook.org/victims/polly.crossneil.html>

⁹² “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: Evening News, Aug 31, 1888. Accessed 2014.

http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

minutes after the arrival of the body -according to the “Evening News” report. It may seem a little strange, but it totally depends on which report one wishes to follow.

The “Evening News” of September 3rd reports Inspector Spratling went to the mortuary accompanied by P.C. Thain. Since it was still dark, as sunrise on August 31, 1888, occurred at 05:12,⁹³ the inspector says he found the body “still on the [police] ambulance in the yard” of the mortuary, and whilst taking his description of Mary Ann, he “did not notice any wounds on the body.” He does not mention if there were any other officers there when he and P.C. Thain arrived, and so we must assume the police ambulance was left in the mortuary-yard, unattended.

The mortuary assistant, if remembered, arrived at 05:00. When the mortuary assistant arrives and the body is transferred into the mortuary-shed, the inspector makes “a more careful examination, and then discovers the injuries to the abdomen, and at once sent for Dr. Llewellyn.” In the “Daily Telegraph,” a report gives Inspector Spratling saying: “The clothes were fastened when he first saw the body [in the mortuary-yard]. The stays did not fit very tightly, for he was able to see the wounds without unfastening them.” If the inspector was able to see the abdominal mutilation when the body was still in the mortuary-yard, we cannot understand how he stated he only saw the mutilation wounds when the body was transferred inside the mortuary at 05:00, where he “made a more careful examination, and then discovered the injuries to the abdomen.” If the inspector had enough light -logically from P.C. Thain’s lamp- to jot down a preliminary description of the body, then there would also have been enough light to notice “the stays did not fit very tightly,” and so would have been “able to see the wounds without unfastening them.” Something does not compute with Inspector Spratling’s account of when and how he actually saw the abdominal wounds.

⁹³ Creators of the *NOAA Solar Calculator*: Chris Cornwall, Aaron Horiuchi & Chris Lehman. NOAA Earth System Research Laboratory.
<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/grad/solcalc/sunrise.html>

DR. LLEWELLYN

ARRIVED AT THE MORTUARY AT 05:40

On September 1st, Dr. Llewellyn tells the newspapers that at 05:30 he was “summoned to the mortuary by the police, and was astonished at finding the other wounds.”⁹⁴ The medical officer lives 4 minutes away from the mortuary. If Inspector Spratling left the mortuary to notify the medical officer, and arrived at the surgery around 05:30, giving the good doctor some minutes to get prepared again, both inspector and doctor must have returned together at the mortuary no later than 05:40. The medical officer’s examination, which “lasted about ten minutes,”⁹⁵ was presumably dictated to the inspector, or to P.C. Thain, and then copied down in the inspector’s police report dated August 31st:-

. . .her throat had been cut from left to right, two disti[nct] cuts being on [the] left side. The windp[ipe] gullet and spinal cord being cut through, a bruise apparently of a th[umb] being on [the] right lower jaw, [and] also one [thumb bruise] on [the] left cheek. The abdomen had been open[ed] from centre of bottom of [the] ribs, a[long the] right side, under [the] pelvis to left of the stomach; there, the wound was jag[ged]. The omentum, [sic] or coating of the stomach, was also cut in several places, and two small stabs on private parts, apparently done with a strong bladed knife, supposed to have been done by some left-handed person, death being almost instantaneous.⁹⁶

We have no information from Dr. Llewellyn if the mortuary assistant was present at this time, but with this examination over, Dr. Llewellyn left the mortuary only to return the following morning, September 1st, to perform his third examination, which he will present at the inquest.

⁹⁴ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: Evening News, Sept 1, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

⁹⁵ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: Daily Telegraph, Sept 3, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

⁹⁶ Stewart P. Evans & Keith Skinner, *The Ultimate Jack the Ripper Sourcebook: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*, London: Constable & Robinson Ltd., 2000.
 Public Record Office: The Metropolitan Police Files, 3/140, ff. 239-41.

The most logical reason why the medical officer did not perform a thorough post-mortem on August 31st -though the body had been prepared for an autopsy- would be due to Rigor Mortis that would have made his job exceptionally difficult. Rigor normally appears within the body around 2 hours after the deceased has passed away and lasts anything from 8 to 12 hours after which time *the body is completely stiff*. This fixed state is normally visible within the first 36 to 48 hours after death; after which it leaves the body.

In all good and fair calculation, the entire reexamination would have ended around 06:00, which allowed Robert Mann to lock up the mortuary, leave, go for breakfast, and return half an hour later with James Hatfield to prepare the body. Our calculations, based on police records and newspaper accounts, corroborates Robert Mann's inquest testimony.

INSPECTOR SPRATLING'S RETURN TO THE MORTUARY AT NOON

Inspector Spratling must have left with the medical officer around 06:00 when Robert Mann locked up to go for breakfast, for the inspector tells us that he returns to the mortuary at noon to examine Mary Ann's clothing, which was now stripped off the body. This would be the inspector's third visit to the mortuary that day. What seems to have happened, is that the inspector may or may not have cautioned the mortuary assistants that the body should not be undressed or washed. And, in order to bypass this mishandling -at least from the authoritative side- Detective Sergeant Enright who was following the inquest with Inspector Abberline, called out to remind the jury that he had given instructions the body should not be touched. It is uncertain to whom Detective Sergeant Enright gave these instructions; Robert Mann and James Hatfield did not remember these instructions and Inspector Spratling ignored them completely.

It is not surprising then to read the account given in the "Daily News" of September 18th of how the coroner absolutely shredded Robert Mann and James Hatfield's testimonies: "Robert Mann is an old man in workhouse uniform," the reporter writes. "He said he was keeper of the Whitechapel mortuary. He received the

body in the morning and left it in the mortuary. After having breakfast he returned [at 06:30] and, with the assistance of a man named [James] Hatfield, he undressed the body." According to the same report, the coroner stated to Mann: "Oh, yes, and the inspector [Helson] was present while this was done, was he not?" the latter responded "No; we two were alone." In "astonishment," the coroner stated, "surely you make a mistake. Think again." The reporter describes Mann adhering to his statement, and after some further examination, "the coroner remarked that Mann's evidence was quite unreliable. He was subject to fits, and apparently his memory was impaired. It will be remembered that on a previous occasion that Inspector Helston [sic] deposed to being present while the body was being stripped."

In all probability, the police did not actually take Mary Ann Nichols's murder as being serious enough to secure forensic evidence, at least at the mortuary. It was only at the inquest that the authorities began to be pointed in the right direction by coroner and jury, who were more interested in the case.

The "Daily News" continues to report that "James Hatfield, another old man, also in the workhouse uniform, said he assisted Mann to strip the body, and he described how this was done. They cut some of the clothes and tore others, to get them off. He and Mann were quite alone. The deceased did not have any stays on. A juryman (indignantly) [stated,] 'why, when we [were] in the [mortuary] yard, you showed me the stays. You even put them on to show me how small they were.' (Laughter.) The witness said he had no recollection of such a thing, and the coroner remarked that it was useless to examine this witness further, as he, too, evidently had an impaired memory." It was however the reporters from the "Evening News" who threw darts at police officials and their investigative procedures:-

EVENING NEWS

SEPTEMBER 18, 1888

As a system of criminal inquiry, public investigation before a coroner is an anachronism; but it is not entirely useless, even as that, if it is able to show up the absurdity of other ancient institutions. The inquiry before Mr. Wynne Baxter yesterday into the cause of the death of Mary Ann Nichols is fruitful in again demonstrating to the people of London the entire fatuity of

their police arrangements. On the morning of her murder this poor woman's body was taken to the mortuary attached to the Whitechapel Workhouse, and there undressed and washed by two men, pauper inmates of the workhouse.

Decency might have found two women paupers, but idiocy could not have supplied two more incapable men. Robert Mann and James Hatfield, un-provided with material in the shape of body or brains to gain subsistence in the great world, are consigned to a workhouse, and there given power to interfere with the investigations of men with whom brains is a necessity, or their existence is a failure.

Robert Mann yesterday did not know exactly what had happened on the morning of the murder, and the coroner explained that 'the witness was subject to fits,' and 'that his statements are hardly reliable.' James Hatfield was even less reliable. He cut off some of the woman's clothes, and tore down her chemise, but he swore she wore no stays. Upon this, the foreman exclaimed, 'Why, you tried the stays on the body of the deceased in my presence at the mortuary.'

That two such men should have been allowed without instructions from the police to proceed to cut the clothes, wash the body, and possibly destroy traces that would have aided in the detection of the criminal is so preposterously stupid that it could not exist anywhere but in London.

The time has surely come when the police stations of the metropolis shall have proper mortuaries attached to them so that the help of epileptic paupers warranted to forget what they have done shall not be brought into requisition.

Dr. Llewellyn does not mention if he checked for signs of rigor (stiffening of the muscles post mortem) and/or lividity (settling of the blood after death). What is also missing from the doctor's final examination, are the two small stabs on Mary Ann's private parts, which were written in Inspector Spratling's Report at Dr. Llewellyn's second examination in the mortuary. This information is also removed from public reference by Inspector Helson's inquest testimony, when he stated that "there were no signs of violence below the abdomen."⁹⁷ Is it possible the police requested Dr.

⁹⁷ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: Evening News, Sept 3, 1888. Accessed 2014. http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

Llewellyn to hold back this evidence? If so, then this information should have cropped up in the letters suspected to have been written by the Ripper. Did it? We do not know. There is so much evidence from this case that has been manipulated, lost, destroyed, or even stolen, that it would be impossible even to assume an answer. But the very first letter given to the public and claiming to be the Ripper -signed as “Jack the Ripper” for that matter- was suspected to have been written on September 17, 1888, whilst Mary Ann’s inquest was in its third day. Many “Ripperologists” and researchers do not cite the letter that often believing it to be a “fake” inserted into police records in the 20th century. There are mixed opinions on the letter’s authenticity however, and those who claim the letter “fake” base their claim on the account the letter is not carrying any official police stamp from 1888, which most, if not all of the Ripper letters carry. No doubt this could easily be cleared up with today’s technology to either prove or disprove the letter’s origin, including lifting fingerprints. Gibson (author) believes the letter to be authentic, telling us it was reported to have been “found by Peter McClelland in 1988 at the Public Records Offices files of originals where it had been overlooked.” ⁹⁸

Though this particular letter does not describe any small stabs the police may have requested Dr. Llewellyn to suppress at the inquest, researcher John J. Eddleston explains how he also believes the September 17th letter may be “genuine” due to the postscript which “implies that the writer had knowledge of the murder of Annie Chapman that only the killer would have known.” ⁹⁹ This “knowledge” Eddleston refers to, is the “pretty necklace” mentioned in the letter that the author writes of, which is described by a newspaper article of how Chapman’s “entrails were tied around the neck,” ¹⁰⁰ not once, not twice, but four times according to the medical officer who examined her at the crime scene.

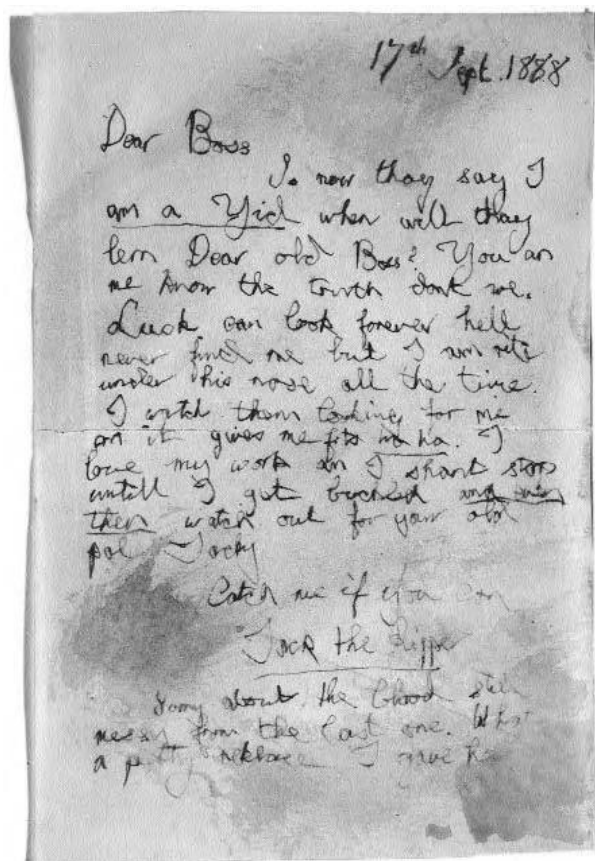
⁹⁸ Dirk C. Gibson, *Jack the Writer: A Verbal & Visual Analysis of the Ripper Correspondence*, Department of Communication & Journalism, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, 2013.

⁹⁹ John J. Eddleston, *Jack the Ripper: An Encyclopedia*, ABC-CLIO, 2001.

¹⁰⁰ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: The Quincy Daily Whig, Sept 9, 1888. Accessed 2014. http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

"DEAR BOSS" LETTER #1 - SEPTEMBER 17, 1888

Public Record Office, London: 144/221/A49301C. ¹⁰¹



Dear Boss

So now thay say I am a Yid when will thay lern Dear old Boss? You an me know the truth dont we. Lusk can look forever hell never find me but I am rite under his nose all the time. I watch them looking for me and it gives me fits ha ha. I love my work an I shant stop until I get buckled and even then watch out for your old pal Jacky.

Catch me if you Can.

Jack the Ripper.

Sorry about the blood still messy from the last one. What a pretty necklace I gave her.

"DEAR BOSS" LETTER #2 WRITTEN SEPTEMBER 25, 1888

Metropolitan Police Files 3/142/2 ¹⁰²

Dear Boss,

I keep on hearing the police have caught me but they won't fix me just yet. I have laughed when they look so clever and talk about being on the right track. That joke about Leather Apron gave me real fits. I am down on whores and I shan't quit ripping them till I do get buckled. Grand work the last job was. I gave the lady no time to squeal. How can they catch me now. I love my work and want to start again. You will soon hear of me with my funny little games. I saved some of the proper red stuff in a ginger beer bottle over the last job to write with but it went thick like glue and I can't use it. Red ink is fit enough I hope ha ha.

¹⁰¹ John J. Eddleston, *Jack the Ripper: An Encyclopedia*, ABC-CLIO, 2001.

¹⁰² Ibid.,

The next job I shall clip the ladys ears off and send to the police officers just for jolly wouldn't you. Keep this letter back till I do a bit more work, then give it out straight. My knife's so nice and sharp I want to get to work right away if I get a chance.

Good luck.

Yours truly,

Jack the Ripper.

Don't mind me giving the trade name. Wasn't good enough to post this before I got all the red ink off my hands curse it.

No luck yet. They say I'm a doctor now, ha ha.

The September 17th letter was never published in the newspapers of the time; at least there has been no reference linking it to any 1888 articles. The September 25th letter was published on October 1st in the "Daily News," and then on October 4th in the "Evening News." This means that October 1, 1888, is mainly supported as being the actual date when the public is introduced to "Jack the Ripper," as far as can be researched. This would be after four canonical Ripper victims have been murdered. It gives rise to a question as to why the letter has no hint of the previous victims accounted to be the Ripper's.

Applying the same standards to both of the "Dear Boss" letters, there is no reference to Mary Ann Nichols, the first suspected canonical victim, yet there is reference to Annie Chapman, the second suspected canonical victim; twice in the 1st letter ("messy" and "pretty necklace") and four times in the 2nd letter ("Grand work;" "squeal;" "red stuff;" and "clip the lady's ears off"). Even if the first "Dear Boos" letter is suspected to be a "fake," we also need to question the second "Dear Boos" letter, for the simple reason that it neither refers to the first suspected canonical victim.

According to the author(s) of these letters, responsibility is only claimed for Chapman; no hint of Nichols. This does not mean there wasn't a letter written earlier than September 17th that hinted on the Nichols murder, because "contemporary press accounts refer to the police throwing away early Ripper letters, before their

potential significance was realized, so it is possible that the earliest Ripper missives escaped contemporary notice and are therefore lost to us.”¹⁰³

September 17, 1888

Discovered by Peter McClelland in 1988

Unknown if the letter was actually addressed to the police; the author gives us no hint to substantiate this.

Dear Boss

So now they say I am a Yid [Yiddisher: Jew]¹⁰⁴ when will they learn Dear old Boss? You and me know the truth don't we.

The letter opens in a low toned style and contains a pinch of apathy: The author makes it important to substantiate his indifference from the beginning. The author does not ask a question here, but emphatically states how the recipient and sender know the truth of the matter. There is also a hint of false assumption, perhaps to show how the author has some authority over this letter and its content.

Lusk can look forever he'll never find me, but I am right under his nose all the time. I watch them looking for me and it gives me fits, ha ha.

A detection of ridicule at this point in the letter towards the Whitechapel Vigilance Committee, whose first meeting convened on September 10th a week before the letter is suspected to have been written, gives the author the knowledge of the committees' doings. It must be stated that the author does not ridicule the police, who are looking for the Ripper, but the Vigilance Committee instead. If anything, the author can be suspected to be of a middle-class rather than a working-class individual.

I love my work and I shan't stop until I get buckled
[arrested] and even then watch out for your old pal Jacky.
Catch me if you Can.
Jack the Ripper.

¹⁰³ Dirk C. Gibson, *Jack the Writer: A Verbal & Visual Analysis of the Ripper Correspondence*, Department of Communication & Journalism, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, 2013.

¹⁰⁴ John S. Farmer & W.E. Henley, *Slang and its Analogues*, London, George Routledge & Sons, Ltd., 1912.

The above paragraph offers slyness, which is logical to come after the previous paragraph was written. It is a simple action followed by a reaction. Some taunting is revealed here; “if” he is caught, and “if” they can catch him, then he has no problem with that.

Sorry about the blood; still messy from the last one.
[Chapman.] What a pretty necklace I gave her.

Here the author apologizes for any inconvenience. If the letter was actually sent to the police, then we don’t apologize to the authorities for any inconvenience unless we are obedient citizens and uphold the law. Some researchers who support the letter as genuine, note the “pretty necklace” refers to Chapman’s intestines that were thrown out of her abdomen depicting a “pretty necklace.” It is possible; however, it is an assumption on a very small scale.

CONCLUSION

The letter is short in length, with the characteristic of being impassive throughout. There is no explanation from the author towards the motive of the killings. The author does not seem to be a foreigner; the digit 7 in the date is not written in a continental style which would have a strike through it. What is revealing is how the author targets with his words the Vigilance Committee instead of the police. There is boldness to state that *if* the police can catch the author, then so be it; in other words, no harm done, which shows how there is not a drop of criminality, if you will, in the entire substance of the letter.

September 25, 1888

Addressed to the Central News Office

Dear Boss

I keep on hearing the police have caught me but they won’t fix me just yet. I have laughed when they look so clever and talk about being on the right track.

The opening paragraph tells us the author can hear and see, and that he has no impairment such as being deaf or blind. This sounds irrelevant today, but in those days when the blind and deaf were begging on the streets, it was the police who actually took them off the streets and cut off the only income they had. In addition, there was a gang, the so-called “Blind Beggar Mob,” a title “derived from a public-house in the Mile End Road at which they used to meet,” Officer Dew tells us, and they “resented being classed with the crooks who confined themselves to the East End.”¹⁰⁵ If the author of this letter was telling the police to back off from hunting the Ripper amongst the impaired and/or within the “Blind Beggar Mob,” is very possible. Hence the author makes it clear from the very beginning, that he is not blind nor deaf. Could the author of the letter have been a member of this gang, is also very possible; otherwise, why even mention he can hear the police and actually see how they look so clever, has no meaning whatsoever.

There is also a sense of ridicule in the letter towards the police investigation, which would depict the author has access to the community around him, looking at “clever” and recognizing it. In order he have access to the police to observe them as they “talk,” would be when officers went off duty to have a drink in a pub.

That joke about Leather Apron [Jack Pizer]¹⁰⁶ gave me real fits.

The author drives the ridicule-nail deeper by demoting the police arrest (terming it a “joke”) of the suspect Jack Pizer, perhaps because Pizer’s first name was also Jack. If this is the case, then there must have been another letter that was signed with the name Jack and not necessarily “Jack the Ripper.”

I am down on whores and I shan’t quit ripping them till I do get buckled.

¹⁰⁵ Walter Dew, *I Caught Crippen*, (London: Blackie & Son, Ltd., 1938).

¹⁰⁶ The Bruce Herald, November 20. 1888:- “John Pizer, known as ‘Leather Apron’ has commenced actions against two London journals for hastily assuming that he was the perpetrator of the Whitechapel murders, and has valued his character in each case at £5,000. Pizer, it will be remembered, appeared at the inquest, but was able to account for his movements.”

The author reveals a mean and angry threat, not necessarily towards “whores” when writing this letter, but mostly towards the investigators of the Ripper murders. This may be due to the Endacott case where Constable Endacott wrongly arrested a middle-class woman for prostitution.¹⁰⁷ The case was very much talked about during the Ripper murders to show the incompetence and corruption of the police at the time.¹⁰⁸ It is unsure if the author gives us a scent of his motive for the crimes when saying “I am down on whores.”

Grand work the last job was. [Chapman.] I gave the lady no time to squeal.

Here, the author changes mannerism from calling his victims “whores” to call, specifically Chapman, a “lady.” This is odd, considering. But it could be the author is stating some ridicule towards the female sex.

How can they catch me now. I love my work and want to start again. You will soon hear of me with my funny little games.

The author donates security and hence the confession of love for the work as a killer. To the reference of “funny little games,” it bears no relevance, inserted no doubt as a playful pun.

I saved some of the proper red stuff [blood] in a ginger beer bottle over the last job [Chapman] to write with, but it went thick like glue and I can't use it.

Perhaps the author is not so rich as to have heating, or the bottle filled with suspected blood was buried or hidden in a cold environment and became “thick like glue.” Either way, no forensic report tells us of some sign of irregularity noticed on Chapman's blood.

We explain.

¹⁰⁷ “Wikipedia”: Elizabeth Cass. Accessed 2013.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabeth_Cass

¹⁰⁸ National Library of New Zealand: The Aroha News, Volume V, Issue 234, Dec 1887, Page 3.

<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast?a=d&d=TAN18871224.2.23&l=mi&e=-----10-1---0-all>

If someone dipped “a ginger beer bottle” into blood to scoop some up, markings of the bottle would have shown. If such markings were evident, and subsequently not released to the public, we do not know.

Red ink is fit enough I hope, ha ha.

At this point, the author brags on substituting blood with red ink, which could have been borrowed, bought, stolen. Either way, there is a need the police believe the author is not a pauper; he not only has a bottle to preserve the blood for later use, but also has ink to substitute it. He wishes to show some superiority of the working-class.

The next job I shall clip the lady’s ears off and send [them] to the police officers just for jolly wouldn’t you.

Again, the author calls the victim “lady” instead of a “whore;” and again, it is extremely odd this twist is detected. As to the “next job,” it was plural, or so it is believed by many that Stride and Eddowes, both attacked and killed on the same night, were the handiwork of the Ripper. Stride suffered a cut throat, but notice below the similarities of symbols the Ripper introduced onto Eddowes’s face (in particular the eyes) which are easily noticed on a Pierrot facemask.

Image © [Tony Webb](#)



Image © [La Quimera del Arte](#)



Pierrot is a mischievous seventeenth century character. Sometimes this clown seemed sly and sinister with a face covered symbolizing a mask which provided anonymity for someone who delighted in making barbed comments on respectable members of the community.

The slits over the eyes could also have been a symbolism against what was believed by many at the time: Photographing the eyes to capture the last vision seen.

Was Eddowes's ears clipped off? "The lobe and auricle of the right ear were cut obliquely through," according to the medical officer's conclusion in the autopsy report. We have no idea if the ears were sent to the police "for jolly."

Keep this letter back till I do a bit more work, then give it out straight.

Why the author wishes the letter be held back from the public is unknown. If anything, he would have wanted the contents to be made public, hence writing it on September 25th after two canonical victims had been murdered. There seems to be trust in the media, however; and this certifies the author is of the working-class. The media did indeed keep this letter back from the public, and printed it a week later after four canonical victims were murdered. Why would the media endeavour to apply to a killer's request, may have been because the police requested they do so. Perhaps the police needed the letter's content to remain secretive, but it is anyone's guess why they would do this except to see if the next job would indeed have "clipped ears" that would be sent to them "for jolly."

My knife's so nice and sharp I want to get to work right away if I get a chance.

The ending of the letter looks as though it is rushed because there was nothing better to think of to write at this point.

Good luck.
Yours truly,
Jack the Ripper.

"Good luck" to the media. This author was definitely of the working-class.

Don't mind me giving the trade name. Wasn't good enough to post this before I got all the red ink off my hands curse it. No luck yet. They say I'm a doctor now, ha ha.

The author emphasizes on “the trade name.” Note how he also states his hands couldn’t look presentable till all the ink came off as though there were no gloves to wear. If the bottle had been buried somewhere outside or hidden in some cold environment, and if red ink had to be removed from the hands before being presentable, then perhaps this author did not live alone, or he was an eccentric individual.

CONCLUSION

The letter is long; too long for anyone who takes a few minutes to cut and rip under the dare of being caught. The Ripper wanted swiftness, if we believe the reports of the day; if he wanted to take his time, as this letter would have needed, then all his victims would have been attacked and killed indoors as Kelly had been.

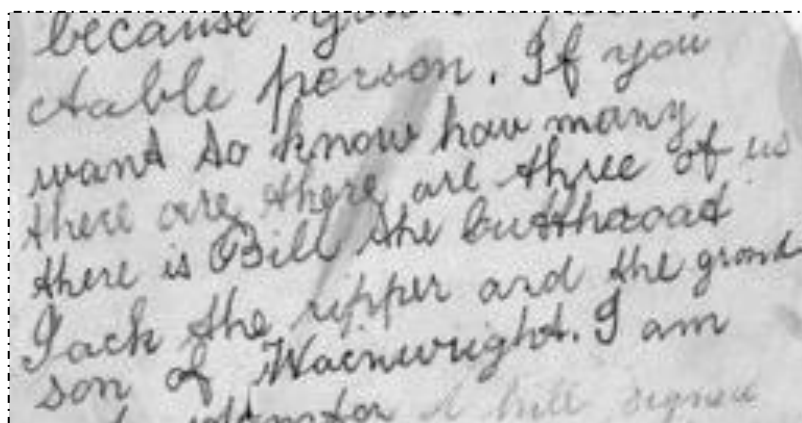
The author requests the media hold back the printing of the letter, donating to buy time. Whichever way one looks at these statements, they contradict the Ripper’s hasty actions and mannerisms that was shown on his victims.

There are doubts this letter was written by the actual Ripper, because it depicts an individual of the working- class, not living alone, possibly an eccentric, and does not like the police as thousands of his class didn’t. As a consequence, the author ridicules the investigation and the arrest of Pizer just because the suspect was called Jack. That the author emphasizes “trade name” corroborates our theory given earlier, that the same individual must have sent a previous letter signed Jack which was possibly ignored.

The author is a boaster, and shows trust in the media; this speculates he is familiar with the reporters or he supports what they write, even more so to wish them “good luck.” Most importantly, the author does not explain a motive for the killings; boasting killers usually do. Then we have the odd twist from mentioning “whores” that become ladies. It is doubtful a maniac would have twisted his facts

in such a manner and it is highly suspected, given all the above elements, that this letter was not written by “Jack the Ripper.” And our opinion is supported by former police officer Dew: “That letter did not deceive me for one moment. I am ready to stake my reputation that it was never penned by the man whom the signature was supposed to represent. If he had written a letter, it would, I am sure, have been just as clever, calculating and cunning as his crimes and his escapes.” ¹⁰⁹

The opening paragraphs in both letters differentiate from what is being said about the Ripper. In the first letter (September 17th) the author writes “they say” putting the community at a distance from himself. This shows the writer was of the middle-class, detached from the community. In the second letter (September 25th) the author writes “I keep on hearing” putting the community very close to himself. This shows the writer was of the working-class, mingled with the community.



Another peculiar letter can be mentioned before leaving this subject, and that is one written anonymously and undated. Within its text the author notes how the

Whitechapel murders are being committed by three; specifically by “Bill the cutthroat, Jack the ripper, and the grandson of Wainwright.” Many will remember the case of Henry Wainwright, convicted of killing his mistress-“wife,” Harriet Louisa Lane, on September 11, 1874. The case caused so much sensation in Whitechapel where the murder happened, that many at the time brought it up when the Ripper murders were ongoing. Henry Wainwright was executed by hanging outside Newgate on December 21, 1875. Could the author of the mentioned letter be referring to Wainwright’s grandson?

¹⁰⁹ Walter Dew, *I Caught Crippen*, London: Blackie & Son, Ltd., 1938.

Henry Wainwright owned a brush shop at 84, Whitechapel Road next door to the Pavilion Hall Theatre in front of the Whitechapel mortuary situated in Old Montague Street. He was on good terms with the theatre management, “supplied them with brushes and mats, evinced great interest in all things connected with the drama, and enjoyed practically the free run of the theatre.”¹¹⁰ By 1886, Wainwright had married; if the marriage was consummated early with a firstborn then that child would have been twenty-nine in 1888, and the “grandson,” if born relatively early, could not have been over the age of thirteen.

The “Daily Telegraph” reported Inspector Spratling had stated at the inquest, that Mary Ann’s “skin presented the appearance of not having been washed for some time previous to the murder;” this was after a witness, Mrs. Oram, told us Mary Ann was “a very clean woman,” and Dr. Llewellyn had remarked on the cleanliness of Mary Ann’s thighs. It is questionable if what Inspector Spratling witnessed was not the appearance of Mary Ann’s skin being dirty, but instead, were signs of lividity.

We now come to three individuals who will trouble us to some extent: Charles Cross, Robert Paul, and Constable Mizen. We only say troublesome because if one picks up any newspaper of the time, they will be surprised to find a different account written for each of what these three people reported. Hopefully, some unraveling will be presented, yet confusion may indeed be unavoidable. Bear with us as we first give Robert Paul’s entire interview.

LLOYD’S WEEKLY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1888¹¹¹

It was exactly a quarter to four [03:45] when I passed up Buck’s Row to my work as a carman for Covent Garden market. It was dark, and I was hurrying along, when I saw a man [no name given] standing where the woman was.

He came a little towards me, but as I knew the dangerous character of the locality I tried to give him a wide berth. Few people like to come up and down here without being on their guard, for there are such terrible gangs about. There have been

¹¹⁰ Sir Edward Marshall Hall, *Trial of The Wainwrights*, William Hodge & Co., Ltd. Undated.

¹¹¹ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: Lloyd’s Weekly, Sept 2, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

many knocked down and robbed at that spot. The man, however, came towards me and said, 'Come and look at this woman.'

I went and found the woman lying on her back. I laid hold of her wrist and found that she was dead and the hands cold. It was too dark to see the blood about her.

I thought that she had been outraged, and had died in the struggle. I was obliged to be punctual at my work, so I went on and told the other man I would send the first policeman I saw. I saw one [policeman] in Church Row, just at the top of Buck's Row, who was going round calling people up, and I told him what I had seen, and I asked him to come, but he did not say whether he should come or not. He continued calling the people up, which I thought was a great shame, after I had told him the woman was dead.

The woman was so cold, that she must have been dead some time, and either she had been lying there, left to die, or she must have been murdered somewhere else and carried there. If she had been lying there long enough to get so cold as she was when I saw her, it shows that no policeman on the beat had been down there for a long time. If a policeman had been there he must have seen her, for she was plain enough to see. Her bonnet was lying about two feet from her head.

Points: Robert Paul thinks the victim is dead

He leaves Charles Cross alone and finds a policeman

The constable ignores Paul's account

We will now add Robert Paul's testimony which took place on September 17th. His account was published in many newspapers at the time so gathering them all together this is what he testified to:-

MORNING ADVERTISER; PALL MALL GAZETTE
SEPTEMBER 18, 1888

- He left home for work at 03:45
- Passing Buck's Row, he saw some man, later identified as Charles Cross
- He saw a woman; her clothes were disarranged
- He felt her hands and face and they were cold
- He sent the other man for a policeman

Points: Robert Paul sends Charles Cross for a policeman

DAILY NEWS

SEPTEMBER 18, 1888

- Robert Paul and Charles Cross examine the body, and the former felt sure he detected faint indications of breathing. The body was partly warm, though it was a chilly morning
- Robert Paul and Charles Cross discuss what was best to be done, and they decide they ought to acquaint the first policeman they meet with what they had discovered

Points: Robert Paul felt sure the victim was breathing - faintly
Robert Paul and Charles Cross decide to look for a policeman together

THE TIMES

SEPTEMBER 18, 1888

- Robert Paul sees the victim's clothes almost up to her stomach
- While pulling the clothes down Robert Paul feels a slight movement

Coroner: Witness [Robert Paul] and the other man [Charles Cross] walked on together until they met a policeman at the corner of Old Montague Street, and told him what they had seen

Points: Paul felt the victim slightly move
Coroner supports Robert Paul and Charles Cross by saying they both went to look for a policeman - not separately

SUMMATION

August 31st:

Robert Paul thinks the victim is dead and leaves Charles Cross at the site to go to work. On his way to work he finds a policeman, and tells the officer what happened. The constable ignores his account.

September 17th:

Two newspapers ("Morning Advertiser" and "Pall Mall Gazette") tell us Robert Paul sends Charles Cross for a policeman. This is a totally different version from what Robert Paul stated on August 31st; also different from what the "Daily News" printed,

that Robert Paul and Charles Cross together decide to look for a policeman. The “Times” also supports both men going to look for a policeman, which was also stressed by the coroner.

Not one newspaper gives the identical account that was given to the “Lloyd’s Weekly” on August 31st; it is as though Robert Paul lied to the reporters of this newspaper, or was coerced to change his story seventeen days later. But there is an outstanding issue with the “Morning Advertiser” and “Pall Mall Gazette,” both printing Robert Paul sent Charles Cross for a policeman. Where were they getting this information from is uncertain.

Lloyd’s Weekly:	Paul went alone for a policeman
Morning Advertiser and Pall Mall Gazette:	Paul sent Cross for a policeman
The Times and Daily News:	Paul and Cross went for a policeman

All that is missing from the above newspaper accounts, is Charles Cross sending Robert Paul for a policeman.

We will now add Charles Cross’s inquest testimony given on September 3rd. Again, this testimony was published in many newspapers at the time. He has also been categorized as a suspect in the Ripper murders as late as 2012. It has been claimed that he gave a false identity to the police in 1888 whilst his real name was to have been Charles Latchmere.¹¹²

Charles Cross works at Messrs. Pickford & Co., situated in Broad Street in Whitechapel, which is roughly a 40 minute walk from his house and an estimated 34 minute walk from Buck’s Row. He is usually at work by 04:00.

<u>The Times</u>	<u>The Daily Telegraph (DT)</u>
03:20	03:30 Leaves home
03:26	03:36 Arrives at Buck’s Row

¹¹² Aug 2012 article: The Telegraph, “Was Jack the Ripper a cart driver from Bethnal Green?” Accessed 2014. <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/law-and-order/9512928/Was-Jack-the-Ripper-a-cart-driver-from-Bethnal-Green.html>

If it takes 40 minutes from home to get to work, Charles Cross must leave his house at 03:20 in order to be there at 04:00, and this is what the “Times” newspaper prints. If Charles Cross leaves home late, say 03:30, then he’ll arrive late at work, around 04:10, and this is what the “Daily Telegraph” prints.

LLOYD’S WEEKLY (SEPT 9th) and ILLUSTRATED POLICE NEWS (SEPT 8th)

- Charles Cross leaves home for work at 03:30
- Passing Buck’s Row he sees a body
- He hears another man (Robert Paul) approaching and tells him what he found
- He touches her hand, it was cold, but the face was warm
- Charles Cross suggests they prop her up; the other man refused
- Both men heard a policeman coming
- They both left, and together find a constable

Points: Charles Cross suggest they prop the body up; Robert Paul refuses
Both of them hear a policeman coming
Both leave and find a constable

1. THE STAR (SEPT 3rd)

2. WALTHAMSTOW & LEYTON GUARDIAN (SEPT 8th)

3. THE TIMES (SEPT 4th)

- Charles Cross left home for work at 03:20
- Robert Paul suggested to prop the body up; Charles Cross declined
- Both men left the site and found a policeman

Points: Paul suggests to prop the body; Charles Cross declines
Both men leave together and find a policeman

SUMMATION

The “Lloyd’s Weekly” is the only report stating two events took place that other newspapers did not carry. The first event is that it was Charles Cross who had suggested they prop the body up with Robert Paul refusing; and the second event is that both men heard a policeman coming.

We will now give Constable Mizen’s inquest testimony collected from various newspaper reports. He testified the same day Charles Cross did, September 3rd. The constable stated a pretty straightforward account. At 04:15 he was approached by

Charles Cross and Robert Paul; the former told him he was wanted by another policeman. This was all, according to the “Times” of September 4th. Other reports only differ in the time this account was suspected to have taken place.

Let's try to clear the atmosphere.

After Mary Ann had been taken to the mortuary, and Buck's Row became the coarse and grotesque of the day, Robert Paul, a carman by occupation, was interviewed by “Lloyd's Weekly” reporters. This was a weekly newspaper that printed its material every Sunday. After work that day, on his way home, Robert Paul passed the spot where he had found the body, since he lived at 30, Foster Street, about half a minute walk away. We believe this is when and where he saw the reporters from “Lloyd's Weekly.”

Now, being Robert Paul lives close by, and from his own sayings, he is familiar with the neighbourhood - “. . .dangerous character of the locality;” “such terrible gangs about;” “many knocked down and robbed at that spot”- he must also be familiar with the police beats around the area: “If she [Nichols] had been lying there long enough to get so cold...” “...it shows that no policeman on the beat had been down there for a long time.”

Upon passing Buck's Row from work to get home, or perhaps at work, Robert Paul hears what is circulating; and that is, that the body he found that morning was actually claimed to have been found by the police in Buck's Row. The word “unacceptable” probably ran through his thoughts. But more importantly, he now realizes that a simple case of a dead woman he found, who he thought had been outraged and who died in a struggle, had turned into a murder investigation. So the first important action Robert Paul could have done, was to go straight to H-Division (or J-Division) police station and tell them he found the body with another man that same morning. But he doesn't do this. Instead, he prefers to stay away from the law, yet not entirely bury his morning adventure, and so speaks to reporters.

Robert Paul's actions are senseless and motiveless unless one takes another angle of approach. First, if Robert Paul had committed some previous offence(s) that was known to the police and preferred not to get involved, he wouldn't have boasted

about his adventure to the press, because the moment he does that, he becomes a central character to the authorities to investigate: Two citizens find the body instead of the police. The story automatically turns the police topsy-turvy.

Second, it would have been naïve for Robert Paul to have thought that after talking to the reporters, and knowing they would print his story on Sunday, the police would not come looking for him.

Third, it was well-known that the inquest would begin on Saturday, the following day after Robert Paul tells his account to the reporters; this would automatically have another individual on pins and needles: Charles Cross, the other man in Robert Paul's story. But the story didn't hit the stands till Sunday. So why would Charles Cross go to the police and Robert Paul not, is an interesting debate.

According to Robert Paul, he is a matter of fact certain Mary Ann was dead when he found her, yet gives us no indication that he saw her throat cut twice and/or her abdomen mutilated. It raises the question as to why he mentioned "it was too dark to see the blood about her." Dr. Llewellyn didn't talk to the press until Saturday morning; Robert Paul talks to the press Friday evening. How, or who told Robert Paul there had to be blood about the body, is uncertain. As noted, the interview was given on Friday but printed on Sunday; this was after P.C. Neil testified the previous day on Saturday asserting that it was he who discovered Mary Ann's body at 03:45.

Not surprisingly, the newspaper supported Robert Paul's interview: "Despite the policeman's assertion that he was the first to discover the body, Mr. Paul last night [Saturday, September 1st] repeated the statement made to our representative on Friday evening [August 31st] that he and another man found the corpse long before the police. He says the policeman he spoke to was not belonging to that beat. Every word he had said was true." ¹¹³

It should not become a tangled event of who actually found Mary Ann Nichols in the morning hours of August 31st; it should however be an essential point to establish. It is imperative, if possible, to substantiate whose testimony is false, and to

¹¹³ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: Lloyd's Weekly, Sept 2, 1888. Accessed 2014. http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

establish who it was who actually saw how the killer(s) left Mary Ann's body. Today, this is vital information for forensic investigators.

The authorities tracked down Robert Paul's whereabouts, but it is unsure if it was the very night he talked to the press or the following night.

SNIPPET FROM LLOYD'S WEEKLY - SEPTEMBER 30, 1888.

Mr. Paul says that after he made his statement to our representative, which appeared in Lloyd's, he was fetched up in the middle of the night by the police, and was obliged to lose a day's work the next day, for which he got nothing.

DATE	TIME	EVENT
August 31st Friday	Evening	Most probably, Paul talks to reporters on his way home after work.
	Night?	Police haul Paul in to the police station. Who told the authorities about him could only have been through the reporters.
September 1st Saturday	10:00	Post-mortem performed Dr. Llewellyn talks to the reporters
	13:00	Inquest opens Constable Neil testifies to finding the body No mention of Cross or Paul
September 2nd Sunday		Paul's interview published
September 3rd Monday		Inquest: Cross testifies to finding the body with another man (no name given). Unknown when he went to the police.
September 17th Monday		Inquest: Paul testifies to finding the body with another man (no name given)

Let's add a little more information to this timeline.

The first comes from Inspector Abberline on September 19, 1888, a date when both Charles Cross and Robert Paul have already testified: "I beg to report, that about 03:40, Charles Cross, carman of 22, Doveton Street, Cambridge Road (Bethnal Green) was passing through Buck's Row Whitechapel (on his way to work). He noticed a woman lying on her back on the footway (against some gates) leading into a stable yard. He stopped to look at the woman when another carman (also on his

way to work) named Robert Paul of 30, Foster Street came up and Cross called his attention to the woman; but being dark they did not notice any blood, and passed on with the intention of informing the first constable they met, and on arriving at the corner of Hanbury street and Old Montague Street, they met P.C. Mizen and acquainted him of what they had seen.” ¹¹⁴

The other timeline comes from Chief Inspector Swanson’s Report written on October 19, 1888, a month after Inspector Abberline’s Report was written: “3.45 a.m. 31st August. The body of a woman was found lying on the footway in Buck’s Row, Whitechapel, by Charles Cross & Robert Paul carmen, on their way to work. They informed P.C. Mizen in Baker’s Row, but before his arrival P.C. Neil on whose beat it was had discovered it.” ¹¹⁵

Another interesting account comes from P.C. John Thain who testifies on September 17, 1888, third day of the inquest. He says that nothing attracted his attention, whilst on his patrol, until 03:45 when he was signaled by a colleague, John Neil. The body of Mary Ann’s was there and he was immediately sent to call the medical officer, Dr. Llewellyn, who lived within a 5 minute walking distance. Upon arriving at Dr. Llewellyn’s surgery at 04:00, according to one newspaper, or at 03:55 according to another, if the surgeon needed 5 minutes to become presentable, and 5 minutes to walk to Buck’s Row, the constable would have returned with Dr. Llewellyn at about 04:05 or 04:10. The newspapers certify the time the body was taken to the mortuary, being 04:30 (or 04:41 to 04:49) according to a witness (Robert Mulshaw) and accompanied by Sergeant Kirby, Constable Neil, and another colleague of H-Division (no name given).

P.C. Thain is ordered to wait at Buck’s Row for Inspector Spratling who arrives at 04:50, since the inspector first hears of the murder “about half-past four” while he was in Hackney Road. Unknown by whose orders it was to wash away the blood, P.C. Thain was present when a young man called James Green from the neighbourhood washes away the blood. The constable saw a mass of congealed blood, 6 inches in

¹¹⁴ Stewart P. Evans & Keith Skinner, *The Ultimate Jack the Ripper Sourcebook: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*, London: Constable & Robinson Ltd., 2000: Public Record Office, Metropolitan Police, 3/140 ff.242-56.

¹¹⁵ Ibid.,

diameter, that had run towards the gutter. It appeared to the constable “of a large quantity.” New information is injected by the coroner, who most probably was reading this information from a police report. The coroner states at this point that P.C. Thain, when helping the body onto the police ambulance, noticed that Mary Ann’s back was covered with blood, which had run from the neck as far as the waist. He also noticed blood on the ground where Mary Ann’s legs had been. This would be the only witness who saw this.

It had been reported that this constable left his police cape at the horse-slaughtering premises of Harrison, Barber & Co., Ltd., situated midway along Buck’s Row at Nos. 19, 21, & 23 in Winthrop Street. The constable denied leaving his police cape and said he sent a fellow colleague to leave the garment at the premises and did not divert to pick it up when sent for the medical officer. But there are two unclear points to look into before leaving Constable Thain’s testimony. The first point would be as to who gave the order for the blood to be washed away after the body was transferred to the mortuary; and the second point would be to question why P.C. Thain gave his police cape to another colleague so it is left at the horse-slaughtering premises of Harrison, Barber & Co., Ltd.

Blood washing orders

There is no possible way to discover who actually gave the order; but the only individual who had some authority over the constables, before the inspectors arrived, was Sergeant Kirby who was at the scene since he accompanied the body to the mortuary prior Inspector Spratling’s arrival. Logic tells us that it was Sergeant Kirby who gave the orders for Mary Ann’s blood to be washed away, since the scene had already been documented by himself, Constables Neil, Mizen and Thain -though in our opinion the scene was contaminated by Robert Paul and Charles Cross- there was not much point in allowing the scene to remain as was. The medical officer would certainly have agreed the blood be washed away not to fuel any further stories from those that had gathered around.

The police cape

The “Times” of September 18th reported the constable “did not take his cape to the slaughterhouse, but sent it by a brother constable.” This is pretty straightforward reporting. “When he was sent for the doctor, he did not first go to the horse slaughterers and say that, as a murder had been committed, he had better fetch his cape.” Another straightforward report, that P.C. Thain picked up his police cape *after* he had taken Dr. Llewellyn to the scene. Why would the constable give his police cape to a colleague of his who took it to the horse-slaughtering premises of Harrison, Barber & Co., Ltd., could be debated. A suggestion from a retired police officer was that “police capes were extremely heavy and nothing more than an encumbrance when not needed. If an officer removed his cape he would have to leave it with someone for safe keeping. No mystery.” ¹¹⁶ A newspaper of the day tells us it was because “it was a fine night.” ¹¹⁷

Both suggestions seem logical and can safely put P.C. Thain going to the horse-slaughterers to pick up his police cape after having secured the medical officer’s presence at Buck’s Row.

Coming now to P.C. Neil, “a tall, fresh-coloured man, with brown hair, and straw-coloured moustache and imperial [beard],” ¹¹⁸ with nearly 20 years’ experience in the force, ¹¹⁹ testifies on the first day of the inquest. He states to being on patrol in the area of Buck’s Row in the morning hours of August 31st, and he must have been amongst the few constables who remained behind in Whitechapel not assisting in the crowd control due to the London dock fire. From newspaper clippings, we get the information that the nightly rounds of police constables were very short, “quickly walked over would not occupy more than 12 minutes.” Another newspaper researched the exact police patrol schedules for August 1888, stating how there

¹¹⁶ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Message Boards. Accessed 2014.
<http://forum.casebook.org/>

¹¹⁷ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: Evening News, Sept 3, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

¹¹⁸ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: The Observer, Sept 8, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

¹¹⁹ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: The Times, Sept 3, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

were in total five “covered by the men of the J-Division quartered at Bethnal Green, these forming what is known as the ‘Second Section night duty.’” ¹²⁰

Constable #1

Begins at Wilmot Street through to Colt Lane, Cheshire Street, Mape Street, and Bethnal Green Road; from there onto Wilmot Street and its interior of a few streets, courts, and passages.

Constable #2

Begins covering Colt Lane through to Collingwood Street, Darling Row, Dog Row, Whitechapel Road, Brady Street and returning into Colt Lane and its interior of a few streets, courts, and passages.

Constable #3

Begins at Brady Street and covering Whitechapel Road, Baker’s Row, Thomas Street, Queen Anne Street, then into Buck’s Row to Brady Street. This was Constable Neil’s beat.

Constable #4

Begins at Baker’s Row and going through Nottingham Street, White Street, Bethnal Green Road, Mape Street, London Street and onto Baker’s Row and its interior of a few streets, courts, and passages.

Constable #5

This beat would cover Whitechapel Road, making a total of nine beats for the five constables. The exterior of the beats were at least a mile in extent, and to this distance must be added the interiors.

DAILY NEWS

OCTOBER 19, 1888.

‘The method of working beats,’ says the Police Code, ‘must be frequently changed, and the police must be careful not to allow evil disposed persons to ascertain the system of working and the consequent hour of absence from a given spot. The beat should be walked over at about two and a half miles an hour; and in towns, constables on day duty should keep near the curbstone, and by night next the house.’

All persons are to be closely observed so to recognize and advertised for apprehension in the *Police Gazette* of police information, and if any such are met they are to be stopped and questioned. Policemen must not loiter or gossip; they must move smartly and not slouch or look slovenly; they must answer all questions with civility and good temper; they must act quietly and discreetly, not interfering unnecessarily, but when need

¹²⁰ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: The Echo, Sept 21, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

arises, showing firmness and discretion. 'Above all, ladies, foreigners, and strangers should be treated with civility.'

The caution against allowing the system of beat duty to be known refers, of course, simply to the way in which beats are patrolled. It is not always to be done in the same way. A man must go first in one direction and then in another, so as to avoid any regularity of time. The same constable marches round a beat for a month, and then is moved on to another beat in the same section for another month. Thus he patrols the whole of his subdivision in course of time, and then comes back to begin over again, unless for any special reason he should be removed elsewhere, which is not usual except in the case of promotion to the rank of sergeant when he invariably goes to another division.

It is bothersome to hear that quite a few constables and a sergeant were on patrol the night Mary Ann's body was found in an area with thugs who would slit your throat for a penny. Even more bothersome when it is taken into account how two horrendous fires were ongoing that needed crowd control, including the fact no one heard or saw Mary Ann being captured and suspected to have been killed in Buck's Row until her body materialized there. Yet, some newspapers screamed how there was "scarcely any preventative force at all, and even when a crime has been committed the police arrive so late that criminals have every advantage in their efforts to get away. This does not matter greatly in the lower districts in the daytime, because the rough population can for the most part be trusted to take care of itself, but it does matter seriously at night, when Whitechapel is almost as deserted as Belgravia, and in the suburbs it matters at all times, suburban houses being deserted for the most part by their male protectors from nine till five." ¹²¹

At 03:15, Constable Neil walks opposite the horse-slaughtering premises of Harrison, Barber & Co., Ltd., situated on the south side of Winthrop Street at Nos. 19, 21, and 23. There, he sees two workmen (no names given). He will later testify he saw these same two men as "the first persons" to arrive at the scene after he had

¹²¹ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: East London Advertiser, Sept 29, 1888. Accessed 2014. http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

found Mary Ann. The morning workers at Harrison, Barber & Co., Ltd., were identified as Henry Tomkins, James Mumford, and Charles Britten, but none of these men were amongst the men Constable Neil saw twice that morning.

We explain.

When Henry Tomkins ¹²² later testifies, he will say that he took a break from work with his colleague Britten at midnight on August 30th, and returned to work at 01:00 on August 31st; from that time onwards, they did not again leave the slaughterhouse until they heard of the murder at 04:15 from a P.C. Thain ¹²³ who came to pick up his police cape, and it was then that they heard of the murder. Henry Tomkins by the way could not read or write.

If remembered, P.C. Thain denied telling the men at Harrison, Barber & Co., Ltd., how a murder had happened. Regardless, the timeframe given by Henry Tomkins corroborates the constable's account that he did not divert from his duty in calling the medical officer until he had him at Buck's Row by 04:10.

Further on in Henry Tomkins's testimony, he will say that he and his other colleague James Mumford go to Buck's Row to see who was murdered, and the time they do this is at 04:20; Charles Britten tags along. When Henry Tomkins "arrived at Buck's Row, the doctor [Llewellyn] and two or three policemen were there. He believed that two other men, whom he did not know, were also there." ¹²⁴ His account, on seeing Dr. Llewellyn at 04:20, is corroborated by the witness Robert Mulshaw, who saw the good doctor still at Buck's Row at 04:41.

It seems from Henry Tomkins's testimony, "that two other men, whom he did not know," who were at the scene, could not have been James Mumford and Charles Britten. The two workmen that were seen by P.C. Neil at 03:15 and then at Buck's Row, are unidentified.

Continuing along, after encountering the two unidentified workmen at 03:15, P.C. Neil walks into Buck's Row; he sees and hears nothing. We don't know how

¹²² Henry Tomkins resided at 12, Coventry Street (Bethnal Green).

¹²³ In the "Times," it does not name the constable, but the "Daily Telegraph" names the constable as Thain.

¹²⁴ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: Daily Telegraph, Sept 18, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

thoroughly the constable searched the area; there was no light from the moon, as it was in its last quarter phase,¹²⁵ and the lighting of the street was poor as accounted by some. This latter subject will be dealt with separately further down. On Constable Neil's next round at 03:30, again he sees and hears nothing, except perhaps "a goods train" which passed by at this time "on the East London railway." The train was "the 3.7 out from New-cross," as reported by the "Lloyd's Weekly" on September 9th from a witness account, a Mrs. Harriet Lilley who described she heard this "luggage train" go by when she distinctly noticed hearing "a painful moan, two or three faint gasps" that she later connected with Mary Ann's murder. The same witness also told reporters she heard "whispers" right under her window.¹²⁶ This witness did not turn up to testify at the inquest probably because her account referred to another crime committed before Nichols's body was found.

Returning to P.C. Neil, his next patrol through Buck's Row was at 03:45: "I was on the right-hand side of the street, when I noticed a figure lying in the street. It was dark at the time, though there was a street lamp shining at the end of the row."¹²⁷ On approaching the body, and with the aid of a bull's-eye lantern, the constable notices "blood oozing from a wound" in Mary Ann's throat. She "was lying on her back, with her clothes disarranged;" he "felt her arm, which was quite warm from the joints upwards." In addition, the constable notices Mary Ann's "eyes were wide open." We do not know if the constable tried to close Mary Ann's eyes; if he had, we could have been certain if rigor had begun, since the facial and upper neck and shoulder muscles first visibly suffer from its effects, which is stiffening of the body. But the constable is not asked if he tried to close her eyes. He is however asked if he saw any blood around her, and replied, that apart from the blood he saw "oozing" from her throat, he also noticed blood running "just where her neck was lying." There is no

¹²⁵ National Library of New Zealand: "Moon's Phases." The Aroha News, Volume VI, Issue 295, Sept 1, 1888. <http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast?a=d&d=TAN18880901.2.6&cl=CL1.TAN&e=-----10-1---0-->

¹²⁶ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: Lloyd's Weekly, Sept 9, 1888. Accessed 2014. http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

¹²⁷ Inquest testimony on Sept 1, 1888, and published in the "Daily Telegraph" on Sept 3, 1888.

mention if the constable saw blood around Mary Ann's legs as P.C. Thain testified he saw.

Before continuing, we remind our readers of what forensic pathologist J. Dixon Mann stated in regards to clothes being disarranged: "The condition of the dress: if disordered, indicating a struggle..." ¹²⁸ In other words, what P.C. Neil had witnessed in regards to Mary Ann's clothes being "disarranged," indicated a struggle. But this should be taken lightly, because we actually have no clear picture how Robert Paul and Charles Cross left the victim's clothes, since one of them did touch the skirts to pull it down. Basically, it was only Charles Cross who saw how the Ripper had actually left Mary Ann and her clothes, but we cannot rely on his testimony because he states he declined in shifting the body, which was not corroborated by Robert Paul. Meaning, we don't actually know if the body was shifted. The most crucial evidence for forensic investigators was obliterated at Buck's Row by these two individuals. A criminal error, to say the least, and neither of these men were reprimanded by the officials at the time; at least we have not found such information.

After checking the body, P.C. Neil hears his colleague John Thain pass Brady Street, and tells him to "run at once for Dr. Llewellyn," though the "Daily News" adds to this information and reports that P.C. Thain was told "here's a woman has cut her throat. Run at once for Dr. Llewellyn." However, P.C. Neil could not have been such a sniff dog or deducer, because he had remained a constable for nearly twenty years. Another colleague, G. Mizen arrives, and is dispatched for the police ambulance. No time is given of either of these occurrences, and neither does P.C. Neil inform coroner and jury that Police Sergeant Kirby was on the same patrol schedule as he was, always according to Inspector Spratling's Report: "P.C. [Neil] states he passed though Buck's Row at 3.15 am and P.S.10. Kirby about the same time, but the woman was not there then, and is not known to them." ¹²⁹

¹²⁸ J. Dixon Mann, *Forensic Medicine & Toxicology*, London: Charles Griffin & Co., Ltd., 1893.

¹²⁹ Stewart P. Evans & Keith Skinner, *The Ultimate Jack the Ripper Sourcebook: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*, London: Constable & Robinson Ltd., 2000.
Metropolitan Police 3/14, ff. 239-41.

Whilst waiting for Dr. Llewellyn and the police ambulance to arrive, P.C. Neil investigates the Essex Wharf warehouse occupied by (a) James Brown; (b) Son & Blomfield (builders); and (c) James Brown (brick maker). The manager of the warehouse, Walter Purkiss,¹³⁰ is questioned, but could not assist for he heard nothing; “it was unusually quiet.”¹³¹ Having nothing further to add and nothing further asked of him, P.C. Neil’s testimony is over. He was never recalled to testify.

Police Constable John Neil’s account

- At 03:45 he found the body
- Blood “oozing” from the neck
- Blood “running” from the neck
- The arm: “Quite warm from the joints upwards”
- No other injuries detected
- No other signs of blood noticed than that which came from the neck wound
- Thought the victim had cut her own throat

Where Is Mary Ann’s Blood, is a very good question. A juror asked Inspector Helson: “Did it not strike you as very strange that you did not find more blood, considering the nature of the wounds?” The inspector replied, “No; I found enough blood at the back of the dress to account for the blood that flowed from the wound in the throat. The blood from the other wounds *probably* flowed into the abdominal cavity.”¹³² Notice the assumptions from the police taking center stage on this subject. Regardless of a severed throat and disembowelment, which Dr. Llewellyn reports Mary Ann suffered, he says at the inquest that “no blood was found on the breast, either of the body or of clothes.”¹³³ However, this was noticed on September 1st after he had done his autopsy.

¹³⁰ From extensive research by Karen Trenouth, it was found that a Walter Purkiss of Belmont Villa Severt Road in Forest Gate, a timber merchant, was a Freemason who belonged to Guelph Lodge Number 1685. The lodge met at the Town Hall in Leyton according to the records on Masonic Study.

¹³¹ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: The Times, Sept 18, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

¹³² “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: Evening News, Sept 3, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

¹³³ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: The Observer, Sept 8, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

Dr. Hamilton interviewed by the press
 --Montreal Herald, October 5, 1888. ¹³⁴

"How do you suppose he manages to cut the throats and mutilate the trunks of these women without covering himself with blood so as to make detection certain?"

"It could be done by making a sudden pass at the throat from behind, but it is a very difficult operation, requiring great practice. This man is probably educated, but I hardly think he is refined. That he knows something about surgery is, I think, pretty certain. The fact that he is able to slay his victims so quickly and effectively and to disembowel them in such a short time points in that direction. Then in all but one case he has removed the same organ from the body and taken it away with him. To find and cut out this organ would be a difficult thing for a layman. The madman has probably put these specimens in a cask, and is thrilled with pleasure when he gloats over them—or perhaps he has eaten them."

In the meantime, the body had been washed -including the clothes no doubt- on August 31st by the mortuary assistants. It almost seems that the medical officer was confused, because it would have been naïve of him not to have been informed, or not to have known, that Robert Mann and James Hatfield had already wiped down the body and washed the clothes the previous day.

The "People" newspaper on September 9th reported the following account of Inspector Helson's testimony at the inquest:-

PEOPLE

SEPTEMBER 9, 1888.

Inspector Helson, J-Division, was next called, and said:- 'At 06.45 on the morning of the 31st ult. at my house I received information of the affair. I first went to the Bethnal Green Police Station and made myself acquainted with the facts, after which I went [between 08:00 and 09:00 ¹³⁵] to the mortuary. The body was fully dressed, except the bonnet. The bodice of the dress was open for about four buttons from the top. They might have been undone by the doctor. The stays were shorter than usual, and did not reach the hip. There were no blood marks on either of the petticoats. The back of the dress just about the shoulders were soaked in blood, which had flowed from the wound in the neck. The Ulster was also saturated and between that and the dress the blood was clotted. ¹³⁶ The other parts of the body were clean but did not give one the impression that the body had

¹³⁴ National Library of New Zealand. Montreal Herald, October 5, 1888. Accessed 2014.
<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/>

¹³⁵ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: Daily News, Sept 4, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

¹³⁶ Blood flow patterns on the clothing may indicate the position of the victim at the time of the stabbing.

been recently washed. The face was bruised, as if by a blow on the cheek, and the right jaw appeared to have been struck. There were no marks of any ring being torn off the fingers, and there was no appearance of any struggle having taken place. All of the injuries could have been inflicted while the woman was wearing her clothes. I have examined the spot where the body was found in Buck's Row. There were no signs of blood on the large gates where the body was laid, and, as the paint was fresh, they would, had they been there, have been easily visible. I should say that the outrage was committed on the spot.

Inspector Helson's testimony, as given in the newspaper, is misleading. First, the inspector arrived at the mortuary quite late that morning; so late, that the body had already been undressed by the mortuary assistants and washed. Second, Inspector Spratling had sent for Dr. Llewellyn to examine additional wounds and the medical officer had already reexamined the body by the time Inspector Helson arrives. And finally, all the blood had been washed away from Buck's Row by the time Inspector Helson had seen the spot where Mary Ann was found, making his conclusion that "the outrage was committed on the spot," circumstantial.

Blood at Buck's Row

Blood oozing from a wound in the throat
(P.C. Neil)
Pool of blood where the neck was
(P.C. Neil)
A mass of congealed blood (6 inches in diameter)
(P.C. Thain)
Back appeared to be covered with blood
(P.C. Thain)
Blood on the ground where the victim's legs were
(P.C. Thain)
Very little blood round the neck
(Dr. Llewellyn)

Blood at the mortuary

The back of the dress soaked in blood (Inspector Helson - August 31st)
The Ulster was saturated with blood
(Inspector Helson - August 31st)
No blood on the chest or body of clothes
(Dr. Llewellyn - September 1st)

As seen from the above lists, we have two witness accounts (P.C. Thain and Inspector Helson) who saw enough blood around the body and on the clothes to justify Mary Ann being killed in Buck's Row; the other individuals do not corroborate this, and they are P.C. Neil, Dr. Llewellyn, Robert Paul, Charles Cross, and Sergeant Kirby (though we don't have the latter's report).

The testimony of P.C. Thain was on September 17th and could have been hearsay testimony after hearing/reading all previous inquest testimony or having been informed of Inspector Helson's interview to the press. The constable could even have been influenced to have seen blood, since no other officer at the scene did; and it would support the murder happening in Buck's Row including the inspector's interview. But some newspapers, the "Evening News" in particular, was printing that Buck's Row could not have been the crime scene.

THE EVENING NEWS
SEPTEMBER 3, 1888.

Active attempts are being made to discover the actual scene of the murder, for the theory that the crime was committed in Bucks Row, where the body was found, is generally discredited. The small quantity of blood found at this spot, considerably less than half a pint, is conclusive against the theory.

The wounds in the throat severed both the jugular vein, and the carotid artery, with the result that the body was practically drained of blood. A large quantity of blood must also have flowed from the terrible wounds on the abdomen. Yet very little was found on the clothes of the deceased or on the pavement where she was lying.

THE EVENING NEWS
SEPTEMBER 7, 1888.

This morning, [September 7th,] at one o'clock, two reporters commenced a watch in Buck's Row, which terminated at eleven o'clock, and from what they then observed, coupled with the evidence already given, they came to the conclusion that the police are altogether wrong in their assumption that the murder was committed on the spot where the body was found. This seems to be absolutely impossible, for the following reasons. In the first place, Buck's Row is a decently wide thoroughfare, running at right angles from Baker's Row to Brady Street. Buck's Row is in every sense thoroughly respectable, every tenant being

an old inhabitant, and of good class. In addition to well-to-do artisans, the row contains a mission hall, the factor of Messrs. Schneider and Sons, and the factories and warehouses of Messrs. Torr, and Brown and Eagle, together with the private residence of the Rev. Henry North Hall, the curate of St. Mary, Whitechapel.

There are watchmen at night at these factories, and many of the private residents were awake at the time the deceased was murdered, but none heard any cries for help on Friday morning. It has been stated that the street is a dark one, but this is altogether wrong, for it is well lighted at all hours of the night by the great lamps outside the brewery of Messrs. Mann and Crossman, in addition to the ordinary street lamps,¹³⁷ and it seems inconceivable that such a well-lighted street would be selected for the crime.

Winthrop Street, on the other hand, is very narrow and very dark, and tenanted by many of the worst characters in London, and there seems to be no doubt whatever that the murder was committed there, and the body brought round the corner and left a few yards up Buck's Row.

The extensive nature of the injuries and the absence of blood in Buck's Row, as proved by the police, also goes to show that the murder was not committed there, and if this be so there was probably a second party cognizant of the murder, if not a participator in it.

It may be stated that a thorough search of the houses in Winthrop Street, has not been made by the police yet, and there is good reason to believe that had this been done at the outset a clue to the murder and the actual spot where it took place would have been discovered.

Winthrop Street, the above report was suggesting to have been the crime scene, was where the horse-slaughtering establishments were located. It is unknown if this establishment was thoroughly checked after the body had been removed from Buck's Row; Inspector Spratling does not mention he did in his police report.

Robert Paul, in his interview with the reporter of the "Lloyd's Weekly" on August 31st, stated Buck's Row could not have been the crime scene: "The woman was so

¹³⁷ P.C. Neil had stated there was only one lamp positioned at the end of Buck's Row.

cold, that she must have been dead some time, and either she had been lying there, left to die, or she must have been murdered somewhere else and carried there.”

The neighbours surrounding Buck’s Row stated the area could not have been the crime scene as written within Inspector Spratling’s Report of August 31st: “I made enquiries and was informed by Mrs. Emma Green, a widow, New Cottage adjoining, and Mr. Walter Purkiss, Essex Wharf, opposite, also of William Court Night Watchman to Messrs. Brown & Eagle, Bucks Row, and P.C. 81.G.E.R. Police on duty at Wharf near, none of whom heard any scream during the night, or anything to lead them to believe that the murder had been committed there.” ¹³⁸

The medical officer in his interview with the reporter of the “Evening News” on August 31st (printed September 1st) stated Buck’s Row could not have been the crime scene: “There was a very small pool of blood on the pathway, which had trickled from the wound in the throat, not more than would fill two wineglasses, or half a pint at the outside. This fact, and the way in which the deceased was lying, made me think at the time that it was at least probable that the murder was committed elsewhere, and the body conveyed to Bucks Row.”

Who supported the theory that Buck’s Row was the crime scene comes first from Inspector Helson’s testimony at the inquest on September 3rd -“Witness was of opinion that the murder was committed at the spot where the body was found”- and then in his report of September 7th: “. . .the result of the Post Mortem Examination, leaves no doubt but that the murder was committed where the body was found. . .”

The inspector’s constable, including Coroner Baxter in his summation on September 22nd, also supported Buck’s Row was the murder scene: “The condition in which the body was found appeared to prove conclusively that the deceased was killed on the exact spot in which she was found.”

It would not be difficult to agree how Mary Ann Nichols’s murder was poorly investigated at the time by the police. A very important aspect of Mary Ann being

¹³⁸ Stewart P. Evans & Keith Skinner, *The Ultimate Jack the Ripper Sourcebook: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*, London: Constable & Robinson Ltd., 2000.
Records of the Metropolitan Police, 3/140 ff.239-41.

killed in Buck's Row, would be to diminish the blood not found that would have generated from her throat wounds and abdominal mutilation.

We explain.

If we slit someone's throat while they are alive, and all the way across, it has been noted, that this would "serve to instantly stop the blood flow to the heart, and therefore massively reduce inconvenient bleeding." But in order this be accomplished, and attack would have needed to have come from behind the victim. We mentioned earlier the wounds and injuries that were inflicted on Mary Ann: The first cut to the throat ran 4 inches across according to the post-mortem report. What damage would it cause the victim? We do not have the depth of this incision and it is very easy to assume and be mistaken on the exact injury it would have inflicted. A common injury inflicted by cut #1 could be to simulate the vagus nerve, which "helps to regulate the heart beat, control muscle movement, keep a person breathing, and transmit a variety of chemicals through the body." ¹³⁹

But even a very intense slap behind the ear or intensive pressure on the neck area could lead to death as this nerve over stimulates. And according to "Forensic Medicine-General Health," a minor trauma or relatively simple and harmless peripheral stimulation to the vagus nerve could cause sudden death to occur within seconds or a minute. When death results from vagal inhibition, there are no characteristic postmortem appearances. The cause of death can be inferred only by exclusion of other pathological conditions, and from the accurate observations by reliable witnesses, concerning the circumstance of death.

As to the second cut Mary Ann suffered to her throat, it was so deep -8 inches across- that it had the capacity to sever all the major arteries. ¹⁴⁰ Should Mary Ann have suffered vagal inhibition either by the pressure she received by a palm around her throat, or by the first cut in her throat, both inflictions would cause sudden death

¹³⁹ "wiseGEEK," Mary McMahon's article, "What is the Vagus Nerve?" January 2014. Accessed 2014. <http://www.wisegeek.org/what-is-the-vagus-nerve.htm>

¹⁴⁰ Henry Gray (1825-1861): "Anatomy of the Human Body," 1918. Fig. 793. <http://www.bartleby.com/107/illus793.html>

to occur within seconds or a minute; the second cut which severed all major arteries would not have produced the blood flow it would have if she was alive.

All evidence points to the fact that whoever inflicted these two cuts to her throat did not have the neurological knowledge we have today of how these nerves -ten in all- work. If the perpetrator did have the knowledge, then it cannot be explained why the placement of the hand on the throat -which would cause death by vagal inhibition- needed to be accompanied by aftermath incisions. These additional inflictions can only serve to apply terror/scare for the observer who sees the victim. If this was the intention, then it succeeded at the time. Dr. George Fox, a Dublin anatomist, noted:

**AUCKLAND EVENING STAR
NOVEMBER 24, 1888.**

The Whitechapel murderer silenced his victim by a method of choking, or pressing the lower jaw up against the upper one, the method of a bully, but not such as a skilful anatomist would adopt, who, of necessity, should know that a pin-slit with a small knife would deprive the person of all power of sound.

The victims' throats were cut, allowing the large vessels of the neck to pour out blood to such risk of besmearing the criminal; a danger which he need not have incurred had he known, as an anatomist would have, how to destroy life.

If we must consider the weapon used on Mary Ann, when a right-handed killer starts to cut, the knife is struck high and then moves lateral. The first cut on her throat was 4 inches in length but we have no forensic information on the depth of the wound. As to the second cut, the right-handed killer would then pull the knife from ear to ear. If a sharp bladed knife was used, and "if plunged into the body deeply enough, will often leave nicks and grooves on the surfaces of any bones they come into contact with. When the blade meets the solid structure of the bone, it is also possible that fragments of the blade are broken and left behind with the remains, ideal for later comparison to weapons. Such discovered fragments may be matched directly to the weapon used, or they may at least give some indication as to the type

of weapon.” ¹⁴¹ The only forensic information we have, if such knife fragments were found, is that the second incision to the throat, severed “all the tissues down to the vertebrae.” ¹⁴²

If we consider the garrote, which cuts off blood flow to the brain, and can kill in under 5 seconds, this weapon leaves no time for blood spatter to form because the weapon is used to strangle one’s opponent or cut into the neck, slicing through the carotid arteries as Mary Ann suffered. Because it is easily concealable, silent, and deadly, it is often used for assassinations and is heavily dependent on a surprise attack from behind.

As to the weapon used on the abdomen mutilation, we know that “a neat wound indicates the use of a sharp object;” at some point in the abdominal injury Mary Ann suffered, a jagged wound was detected and “would suggest a blunter instrument was used.” ¹⁴³ Dr. Llewellyn depicts all the wounds were “caused by a knife, which had been used violently and been used downwards.” But this turns out to be more debatable than it should. The most critical factor in force is the sharpness of the point of the instrument; relatively little force is required to produce a wound provided the knife has a sharp point. Dr. Llewellyn tells us that the knife was used violently; if so, then it had to have been quite blunt.

For the creation of a jagged pattern, the hand holding the knife had to have been quite unstable as it inflicted the injury, which could have been caused by motion as the attack was in progress. If a blunt instrument was used (which creates jagged wounds and needs considerable force to penetrate skin and tissue as Dr. Llewellyn saw) then either a poker or a pair of closed scissors would have done the job. If the latter instruments were used, they would have left traces of bruising and scraping around the wound margins. ¹⁴⁴ We have no forensic information to assist in

¹⁴¹ Stephanie Rankin’s “Forensic Science Central.” Accessed 2014.
<http://forensicsciencecentral.co.uk/index.shtml>

¹⁴² “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: Daily Telegraph, Sept 1, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

¹⁴³ Stephanie Rankin’s “Forensic Science Central.” Accessed 2014.
<http://forensicsciencecentral.co.uk/index.shtml>

¹⁴⁴ Ahmed Taher, M.D.: *Wounds from Forensic Prospect* Almuntnin.

determining if this was detected on Mary Ann's abdominal wounds, and only have an abrasion seen on the left side of her neck.

Though the public hardly needed any incentive to blame the Board of Works for keeping the streets poorly lighted, it was Sir Charles Warren, on October 3, 1888, who wrote a response to a letter received from the Clerk for the Board of Works, Whitechapel district, and how he felt the members of the board, as popular representatives, needed to do all in their "power to dissuade the unfortunate women about Whitechapel from going into lonely places in the dark with any persons, whether acquaintances or strangers." He also stated "that the purlieus about Whitechapel are most imperfectly lighted, and the darkness is an important assistant to crime." It is unclear how Sir Warren expected the Board of Works representatives to achieve dissuading "the unfortunate women about Whitechapel from going into lonely places in the dark." Theory is easier than action.

The "Daily News" reported on October 5th: "The District Board of Works will we understand shortly have the Commissioner's letter under consideration, and the reply they may be expected to make is that they do not increase their lamps for precisely the same reason that Sir Charles Warren does not increase the number of his men. Lamps, like policemen, cost money, and the lighting of Whitechapel cannot be rendered more brilliant without a serious addition to the rates. Roughly speaking, every street lamp represents a hundred pounds capitalized. That is to say, the annual maintenance of a lamp costs about the interest of £100, and altogether the lighting of the entire district costs in round figures £5,000 a year. It is a good round sum no doubt but if it is really true that an increase of light would tend decidedly to the suppression of crime it seems very probable that the addition of even another £5,000 and the doubling of the light would be a good investment." The Whitechapel District Board of Works Meeting met at the offices in Great Alie Street, on the 28th of October, 1888. Mr Robert Gladding, Esq., was chairman, with the following members present:-

Members from Messrs G.T. Brown

Mr. Vile

Mr. Nicholson

Mr. Catmur

Mr. Horey

Mr. Sparks

Mr. Hemsley

Mr. Clark

Mr. Wainwright

Mr. Triggs

Mr. Barham

Mr. James

Mr. Harris C.C.

Mr. Young

Mr. Chappell

Mr. Davis

Mr. Myers

Mr. Karamelli

Mr. Abrahams

Mr. Willis

Mr. Collier

Mr. Ilsley from the Metropolitan Board of Works

Mr. Withers

Mr. Rice

Mr. Loveday

Among the recommendations of the Committee, according to the “East End News” reporting on November 2nd, were the following:-

--That the column lamp on the west side of Tenter Street West be removed and re-erected at the north corner of Scarborough Street and fitted with a burner of greater illuminating power.

--That the lamps in Gower's Walk be rearranged.

--That a new bracket lamp be fixed at the corner of Webb's Place, and that longer brackets be fixed in lieu of the present short ones.

--That the additional column lamp, with improved burner, be fixed in the centre of Charlotte Court.

--That a new lantern be fixed to present bracket, with a reflector to throw light upon the steps at the entrance from Charlotte Street.

--That the column lamp at the corner of Settles Street be removed to the north side, opposite Charlotte Court.

--That the bracket lamp in George Yard (the second from the High Street on the east side) be removed and fixed a few yards northward.

--That an additional lamp be fixed over the entrance of the destructor yard.

--That a lantern and burner of an improved pattern be fixed on the column at the western end of Quaker Street.

--That the bracket lamp at No. 7, Union Court, Fashion Street, be removed, and a column lamp be substituted in the centre of such court, which is a cul de sac.

--That a column lamp be fixed in Thrawl Square to light the entrance, and that the bracket lamp over the entrance be fixed on the opposite side of Thrawl Street.

--That a lamp be fixed in Parliament Court (private court), conditionally that the owner defrays the cost of lighting it.

--That the two lamps in front of Nos. 17 and 20 High Street, Norton Folgate, be removed, the premises now being unoccupied.

All recommendations were adopted. There was no mention of Sir Warren's suggestion. And, the Ripper didn't stop his brutal acts.

THE STAR

SEPTEMBER 1, 1888.

There is too much of the military about him, [Sir Charles Warren,] and he is a tyrant. There are too many inspectors and that sort of thing, and as a rule Army Reserve men, or men who

have served their time, get these positions, and they know nothing about police work. There are too many old soldiers in the force and they're the worst men. They come from the regiments, well recommended, and Sir Charles does not like to refuse them, and these soldiers are no use as policemen. They sleep at their posts, and Sir Charles acknowledges that. Men from the country make the best men. Old soldiers don't do for going among the people.

The last witness to be called on the second day of the inquest till it adjourned for a fortnight, was Mrs. Monk. She stated she saw Mary Ann on August 30th "about seven o'clock entering a public-house in the New Kent Road."¹⁴⁵ Another newspaper reported Mrs. Monk actually sat with Mary Ann to have a drink.¹⁴⁶ Another newspaper, the "Illustrated Police News" of September 8th, reported Mrs. Monk "last saw the deceased about seven weeks ago in a public-house in New Kent Road." Regardless when this event is supposed to have taken place, the "Illustrated Police News" ties two elements, which the other two papers do not.

We explain.

William Nichols wrote a letter to the "Lloyd's Weekly" stating his son wrote to him for some employment a week prior Mary Ann's murder, and "two or three months" earlier, his son visited his house. This was a house in the same vicinity Mrs. Monk stated she and Mary Ann met and had a drink, within the same time frame as when the Nichols boy visited his father.

Now, when Dr. Llewellyn was recalled to testify at the inquest on September 17th, he said he saw "marks of rings" on Mary Ann's fingers, but did not think "she had worn any for five or six weeks" prior her murder, as reported in the "Morning Advertiser" of September 18th. We suggest, based on this strong evidence, that Mary Ann Nichols, accompanied by Mrs. Monk, went to see William Nichols "seven weeks" before she was killed to see her son and also give her son one of her rings to help him out financially until he found work, which until a week before his mother died, he

¹⁴⁵ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: Daily Telegraph, Sept 4, 1888. Accessed 2014.

http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

¹⁴⁶ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: Evening Standard, Sept 1, 1888. Accessed 2014.

http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

had not, according to his father's testimony. Mary Ann was still a mother and we don't have her version of accounts on what happened when she "left" her children. We only have William Nichols's account who was having an out of marital affair; a strong enough motive to discredit his wife. None of the children testified to corroborate or not what actually happened.

As to the pub Mrs. Monk and Mary Ann Nichols could have sat in, we were able to track down three thanks to the research of Glyn Williams.¹⁴⁷ Two of the pubs had their names given to the railway stations in the area. The first pub was the *Bricklayers' Arms* at the junction of Old Kent Road and New Kent Road. "The pub was rebuilt in the 1890s," Williams notes. "Excavations carried out at the time of rebuilding confirmed that it had been built on the site of a much older coaching inn. The later building survived until the 1960s, after which it was demolished for road widening." Close to the Bricklayers Arms' Station there stood a tavern called *The World Turned Upside Down*, "with a pictorial sign to that effect on the top of a post, and (in those days) a water-trough for horses in front."¹⁴⁸ The other pub was the *Elephant & Castle*. Glyn Williams was unable to track down its precise location.

The inquest ended on September 22, 1888. After closing the witness phase, Coroner Baxter gave his summations on Mary Ann's murder. Reiterating her relationships between her father and her husband, the coroner said that though no evidence was given as to Mary Ann's whereabouts on August 30th, except that she was living at the time in Flower & Dean Street, and that her "movements had been traced by the police, and were not considered to have any connection with her death." This would mean police withheld information from the public in regards to Mary Ann's actions the day before she died. Coroner Baxter also stated that it was Charles Cross who first encountered Mary Ann's body in Buck's Row. This is an extraordinary conclusion from the coroner after all the testimony Charles Cross and

¹⁴⁷ Glyn Williams: "Names of Railway Stations & Public Houses in Great Britain and Ireland."

<http://www.sinfin.net/railways/stations/pubs.html>

¹⁴⁸ Alfred Rosling Bennett, *Pearls and Divers Matters: First Tremor of the World-Quake*, Chapter 9, 1924.

<http://www.victorianlondon.org/publications5/londoners-09.htm>

Robert Paul gave, including the latter's interview on the day of the discovery to the newspapers.

As noted earlier, the coroner supported the theory that Mary Ann was killed at Buck's Row and then stated how "there was not a trace of blood anywhere, except at the spot where her neck was lying." This summation does not coincide with the evidence; specifically, the lack of blood. It does however coincide from the witness testimony of those who saw the body at Buck's Row prior her removal to the mortuary. The newspapers noted that this fact appeared to Coroner Baxter "sufficient to justify the assumption that the injuries to the throat were inflicted when the woman was on the ground, while the state of her clothing and the absence of any blood about her legs equally proved that the abdominal injuries were inflicted whilst she was still in the same position. Nor did there appear any grounds for doubt that, if deceased was killed where she was found, she met her death without a cry of any kind." ¹⁴⁹

But how does blood work? In order to actually bleed you need a heartbeat. You bleed because your heart is pumping blood through your body. This is simple enough to understand. If we make an incision in Mary Ann's throat whilst she's alive, her blood will go in directions creating blood spatter as it is termed. Forensic scientists usually work with blood spatter to detect if the victim was attacked from the front or from behind, and also if the victim was attacked whilst standing or lying down. Blood spatter can also tell us the distance the attacker had from the victim. Blood spatter is pretty important in its own way. We are not told by any police official that blood spatter was detected on or around Mary Ann's body; and this leads to a logical summation that the wounds (throat cut and abdomen mutilation) were inflicted after death, because once the heart stops beating, no blood leaves the body in a spattered pattern. If this was not the case, then she suffered her throat cuts by a garrotte.

Should Mary Ann have suffered instantaneous death by the over stimulation of her vagus nerve, is not only possible, but logical, after reading the lack of blood her wounds generated.

¹⁴⁹ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: The Times, Sept 24, 1888. Accessed 2014. http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

On September 1st, “The Observer” sent one of its reporters to the mortuary, where they spotted a “pathetic bundle of rags (the victim’s clothing) lying in a heap outside the door.” Once inside the mortuary, or as they called it “dead house,” the reporter asked the keeper (either Hatfield or Mann) to remove the lid of the black wooden coffin so that he could glimpse the body, covered by a sheet and blanket. This visit must have occurred prior Dr. Llewellyn’s post-mortem that day, because further down, the reporter tells us he saw the abdominal wound and how the “bowels protruded.” He would not have seen this if a post-mortem had occurred, because the abdominal wound would have been sewn up. “The features were small and delicate,” the reporter continues. “The cheek-bones high, the eyes grey, and the partly-opened mouth disclosed a set of teeth which were a little discoloured. The expression on the face was a deeply painful one, and was evidently the result of an agonizing death.” At the reporter’s request, and some tinkling coins dropped into Robert Mann or James Hatfield’s hands, the covers were raised high enough to afford a view of the naked torso, and the reporter’s gaze shifted, first to the severed throat and then to the lower abdomen, where he saw “the most sickening spectacle of all; a terrible gash extended nearly as far as the diaphragm; a gash from which bowels protruded.” ¹⁵⁰

The cause of death stated in Mary Ann Nichols’s death certificate, is due to a “violent syncope,” meaning heart attack due to the loss of blood from her wounds; blood which was not found at Buck’s Row. The fact is that the average woman holds 6 or 7 pints (3.41-3.98 litres) of blood; this is an average of 12 to 14 cups full. P.C. Thain reported he saw a mass of congealed blood, 6 inches in diameter, that had come from the throat injury. This could have been 2 cups full. The medical doctor noted to reporters that it was “not more than would fill two wineglasses, or half a pint at the outside.” In other words, one cup full. How much blood could have seeped into the clothing -to be lenient- we’ll say another full cup making this 2 full cups which is one pint. We are left with 5 or 6 pints.

P.C. Thain also saw blood where the legs were but did not state the quantity. We could agree that another half pint (a cup full) was spilt where the legs were, making

¹⁵⁰ Lewis P. Curtis Jr., *Jack the Ripper and the London Press*, Yale University Press, 2002.

another 4 or 5 pints of blood still unaccounted for. No blood spatter was detected; no bloodstains in the immediate area were noticed, except for the stains that came from a different attack which occurred the same day.

As to the abdominal wounds, Dr. Llewellyn “satisfied himself that the great quantity of blood which must have followed the gashes in the abdomen flowed into the abdominal cavity.” This was also stated by Inspector Helson at his inquest testimony, though the latter assumed it: “The blood from the other wounds *probably* flowed into the abdominal cavity.”

Could we agree the blood that flowed into the abdominal cavity to have been another pint of blood, 2 full cups, therefore leaving 6 or 8 full cups (3 or 4 pints) of blood that should have been present upon or around the body.

It was not.

This can only suggest that Mary Ann did not suffer her mutilations and cut throat at Buck’s Row, or she was already dead when the wounds were inflicted. However, the officials report that “nearly all the blood had been drained out of the arteries and veins, and collected to a large extent in the loose tissues.” ¹⁵¹

Mrs. Green, whose son James washed away Mary Ann’s blood, was interviewed by the reporters and had a tid-bit to offer in regards to not hearing any scream. “I should have heard it had there been any, I think, for I have trouble with my heart, and am a very light sleeper. My son went down as soon as the body was taken away and washed away the blood stains on the pavement. There was quite a little pool, though I understand most of it soaked into the woman’s dress.” Mrs. Green, after injecting this hearsay account, continues: “I looked out and saw the body as it lay there. It was lying straight across the gateway, its head towards me. It was not lying in a heap as if it had fallen, but on its back and straight as if it had been laid there.” This was also what Dr. Llewellyn stated to the newspapers, that Mary Ann looked as though she had been laid on the ground. Mrs. Green continues: “I could not tell at first whether it was a man or a woman; but James, my son, who went downstairs, returned and told me it was a woman. This was four o’clock on Friday morning.”

¹⁵¹ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: Daily News, Sept 3, 1888. Accessed 2014. http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

Coroner Baxter gave his opinion that nothing was heard of or seen at the time Mary Ann was murdered, and excused this by saying it might have “arisen from her intoxication, or from being stunned by a blow.” Dr. Llewellyn’s post-mortem however did not report “a blow” that had been inflicted to the victim except to her face; and he certainly did not corroborate witnesses that Mary Ann was drunk.

We explain.

When Dr. Llewellyn performed a complete post-mortem on Mary Ann’s body on the morning of September 1st prior his inquest testimony, the “Daily News” reported he stated that “the body was fairly well nourished and there was no smell of alcohol in the stomach.” ¹⁵² Yet, the witness Mrs. Oram testified (September 3rd) how she last saw Mary Ann “worse for drink” as our girl staggered along Whitechapel Road in the direction of Buck’s Row around 02:30 on August 31st. This is corroborated by Chief Inspector Swanson’s Report written on October 19th, where he writes Mary Ann was seen by Mrs. Oram at 02:30 “in a state of drunkenness.” ¹⁵³ It was Mrs. Oram’s word against the medical officer’s word, and apparently, Chief Inspector Swanson believed Mrs. Oram. ¹⁵⁴

Should alcohol disperse from the bloodstream within 24 hours after death, would be an interesting discussion. But even if Mary Ann was drunk at the time of her attack, the electro neurons would have sent alarming fireworks, if you will, to the central nervous system and register pain. It would have been impossible for the attacker(s) to even try to muffle her screams.

Dr. Llewellyn tells us -and Coroner Baxter disagreed with this- that the disembowelment occurred before the throat was severed. Dr. Llewellyn’s conclusion was due to the small amount of blood witnessed on and around the body. He medically reported Mary Ann had to have died before her throat was cut; if this is so, then where was the blood from the mutilation wound, which in the doctor’s opinion

¹⁵² Dr. Llewellyn’s inquest testimony in the “Daily News,” September 3, 1888.

¹⁵³ Stewart P. Evans & Keith Skinner, *The Ultimate Jack the Ripper Sourcebook: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*, London: Constable & Robinson Ltd., 2000: Home Office, 144/221/A49301C, ff. 129-34.

¹⁵⁴ Paul Begg, Martin Fido, Keith Skinner, *Jack the Ripper A-Z*, (Headline 1996): After the inquest, Mrs. Oram received two convictions at the Thames Magistrates Court for drunk and disorderly conduct.

was inflicted whilst she was alive, “death being almost instantaneous”? ¹⁵⁵ Ah, officials told us the remainder of blood seeped into the abdominal cavity and the tissues of the wounds. This conveniently removed any additional speculation as to why they supported the murder had to have occurred at Buck’s Row.

Mary Ann’s body, including the area where she was found, offers plenty of evidence that she may not have been killed there; the murder scene was elsewhere and held all the clues an investigative forensic scientist would have been able to collect to solve the crime. Today, it is impossible to even fathom where the murder scene was, if it was elsewhere than Buck’s Row. Yet, the lost time in Mary Ann’s final moments on August 31st, directs us to state that she was not murdered in Buck’s Row and only left there to be found. This subject will be dealt with in a section further down.

Apart from Mary Ann’s murder on August 31st, another murder was committed the same day as the following report tells us:-

**LLOYD’S WEEKLY
SEPTEMBER 2, 1888.**

The people living in Brady Street were thrown into a state of excitement on the terrible news spreading. Brady Street is a long thoroughfare that runs to the left from the bottom of Buck’s Row. Early on Friday [September 1st] morning fresh blood stains were observed for quite a distance along the sidewalks. There would be drop after drop two or three feet, and sometimes six feet apart for a distance, and then a larger pool or splash. As soon as the murder [of Mary Ann] became known a lively interest was taken in these blood-stains, and they began to be traced. They were soon found to be on both sides of the street, and it was afterwards seen that the bleeding person had travelled or been carried in a zigzag line. The trail was easily followed down Brady Street for 150 yards to Honey’s mews. In front of the gateway there was a large stain, looking as if the bleeding person had fallen against the wall and lain there. From here to the foot of Buck’s Row, in which the body [of Mary Ann] was found, the trail of blood was clearly marked.

¹⁵⁵ Stewart P. Evans & Keith Skinner, *The Ultimate Jack the Ripper Sourcebook: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*, London: Constable & Robinson Ltd., 2000.
Inspector John Spratling’s Report, August 31, 1888.

It was wet on Friday morning, and at noon, although the sun had dried it, and there had been many feet passing over it, it was still plainly discernible. The zigzag direction it took crossing and re-crossing the street was and is a matter of mystery.

In the space of a hundred yards the woman crossed the narrow street twice, and whenever she crossed a larger stain of blood in place of the drops indicated that she had stopped.

Our representative discovered, however, on making inquiries the same night, that at a house near where the blood spots were, a man, early on the morning of the tragedy, had made a murderous assault on his wife and cut her throat. She was carried to the London hospital, and it is very probable some blood dripped from her.

Dr. Bond's profile of the Ripper murders came after he was requested by the Home Office to assist the best he could in the "medical evidence given at the several inquests;" one of those inquests was Mary Ann Nichols's. Though Dr. Bond does not explain each case separately, which would have been enlightening, he goes into a general opinion on the perpetrator, believing it to be one individual.

Dr. Bond's response to the Home Office	Our Notes
7, The Sanctuary, Westminster Abbey, November 10, 1888.	Received at the Home Office on November 14, 1888.
Dear Sir, A49301C/21 <i>Whitechapel Murders</i>	
I beg to report that I have read the notes of the 4 Whitechapel Murders viz:-	Kelly's murder was treated separately with an extensive post- mortem from Dr. Bond.
1. Buck's Row 2. Hanbury Street 3. Berner's Street	1. Mary Ann Nichols's body found 2. Annie Chapman's body found 3. Elizabeth Stride's body found

4. Mitre Square	4. Catherine Eddowes's body found
<p>I have also made a post-mortem examination of the mutilated remains of a woman [Kelly] found yesterday in a small room in Dorset Street.</p>	
<p>All five murders were no doubt committed by the same hand. In the first four the throats appear to have been cut from left to right. In the last case [Kelly's] owing to the extensive mutilation it is impossible to say in what direction the fatal cut was made, but arterial blood was found on the wall in splashes close to where the woman's head must have been lying.</p>	<p>Dr. Bond is pretty conclusive in his summation that all five canonical victims "were no doubt committed by the same hand."</p> <p>He based this conclusion on the fact that all the victims had their throats cut from left to right.</p> <p>We cannot see how this can be a conclusive summation, because cutting one's throat from left to right is a logical direction for any common right-handed individual to take. Surely more than one right-handed individual lived in Whitechapel during 1888.</p>
<p>All the circumstances surrounding the murders lead me to form the opinion that the women must have been lying down when murdered and in every case the throat was first cut.</p>	
<p>In the four murders of which I have seen the notes only, I cannot form a very definite opinion as to the time that had elapsed between the murder and the discovering of the body.</p> <p>In one case, that of Berner's Street, [Stride,] the discovery appears to have been made immediately after the deed.</p> <p>In Buck's Row, Hanbury Street, and Mitre Square, three or four hours only could have elapsed.</p>	<p>Dr. Bond states "three or four hours only could have elapsed" from Mary Ann Nichols's death until she was found. In other words, he estimates her death to have taken place between midnight and</p>

	<p>03:00 (or 04:00).</p> <p>If we go by Mrs. Oram's testimony, Mary Ann was seen alive at 02:30, which reduces Dr. Bond's time estimate to 1 hour and 15 minutes before death.</p> <p>If we allow 5 minutes for Mary Ann to move out of Mrs. Oram's view, we have 02:35 as the possible start of Mary Ann's demise. This time gives the perpetrators 1 hour and 10 minutes to cut her throat twice and mutilate her.</p> <p>Dr. Llewellyn's estimation of death takes into account the 02:30 time when Mary Ann was last seen alive. The medical officer gave his estimate on August 31st at Buck's Row when he examined the body the first time. Mrs. Oram testified much later on September 3rd, and could have been giving hearsay testimony.</p> <p><u>Estimated time of death</u> Dr. Llewellyn: 03:40-04:10 Dr. Bond: 00:00-03:00 (or 04:00)</p>
In the Dorset Street case [Kelly's] the body was lying on the bed at the time of my visit, 2 o'clock, quite naked and mutilated as in the annexed report.	
<p>In all the cases there appears to be no evidence of struggling and the attacks were probably so sudden and made in such a position that the women could neither resist nor cry out.</p> <p>In the Dorset Street case [Kelly's] the corner of the sheet to the right of the woman's head was much cut and saturated with blood, indicating that the face may have been covered with the sheet at the time of the attack.</p>	<p>In regards to the Nichols's case, the <i>Eastern Post & City Chronicle</i> of September 1st, reported that "the hands are bruised, and bear evidence of having engaged in a severe struggle."</p>
In the four first cases the murderer must have	This is misleading forensic evidence.

attacked from the right side of the victim.

In the Dorset Street case, he must have attacked from in front or from the left, as there would be no room for him between the wall and the part of the bed on which the woman was lying. Again, the blood had flowed down on the right side of the woman and spurted on to the wall. The murderer would not necessarily be splashed or deluged with blood, but his hands and arms must have been covered and parts of his clothing must certainly have been smeared with blood.

Nearly all witnesses who examined/saw Mary Ann's body, claimed she had been laid onto the ground and then had wounds and injuries inflicted upon her.

The murderer(s) could have attacked Mary Ann from either left or right to place her on the ground regardless from which side the wounds were inflicted once she was lying on the ground.

The mutilations in each case except in the Berner's Street one, [Stride,] were all of the same character and showed clearly that in all the murders, the object was mutilation.

Stride was the only canonical victim who did not suffer abdominal mutilation.

In each case the mutilation was inflicted by a person who had no scientific nor anatomical knowledge. In my opinion he does not even possess the technical knowledge of a butcher or horse slaughterer or any person accustomed to cut up dead animals.

No doubt the good doctor was supporting/protecting his own medical community. However, his statement of exonerating any of his profession as being the killer, created circumstantial evidence.

The instrument must have been a strong knife at least six inches long, very sharp, pointed at the top and about an inch in width. It may have been a clasp knife, a butcher's knife or a surgeon's knife. I think it was no doubt a straight knife.

In the Nichols case, we pointed out that if the knife was sharp, it did not necessarily need to be "strong;" though it is unsure what Dr. Bond means when he says "a strong knife."

The murderer must have been a man of physical strength and of great coolness and daring. There is no evidence that he had an accomplice.

He must in my opinion be a man subject to periodical attacks of homicidal and erotic mania. The character of the mutilations indicate that the man may be in a condition sexually, that may be called satyriasis. It is of course possible that the homicidal impulse may have developed from a revengeful or brooding condition of the mind, or that religious

Again, Dr. Bond relies on circumstantial evidence to make his conclusion. No weapon or blood spatter was found on or around the Nichols body that could determine conclusively that there was not more than one individual involved in her demise.

The theory of a "maniac" attacking the streetwalkers was a theory very well accepted at the time by officials and most of the citizens.

mania may have been the original disease, but I do not think either hypotheses is likely.

The murderer in external appearance is quite likely to be a quiet inoffensive looking man probably middle-aged and neatly and respectably dressed. I think he must be in the habit of wearing a cloak or overcoat or he could hardly have escaped notice in the streets if the blood on his hands or clothes were visible.

Dr. Bond gives again circumstantial evidence. People wore gloves in those days to cover blooded hands. As to blood spatter, none was detected on or around Nichols, which would not have bothered the murderer(s) to wear "a cloak or overcoat."

Assuming the murderer to be such a person as I have just described he would probably be solitary and eccentric in his habits, also he is most likely to be a man without regular occupation, but with some small income or pension. He is possibly living among respectable persons who have some knowledge of his character and habits and who may have rounds for suspicion that he is not quite right in his mind at times.

Dr. Bond's mention of a reward to be offered, is the major artery of motive as to why he wrote this letter.

Such persons would probably be unwilling to communicate suspicions to the police for fear of trouble or notoriety, whereas if there were a prospect of reward it might overcome their scruples.

November 10, 1888, was when Dr. Bond wrote his letter to the Home Office, where in the final paragraph is written, "if there were a prospect of reward" perhaps someone would point out the Ripper to the police. The very first mention of offering a reward to catch the Ripper was noticed on August 31st the day Mary Ann was found. This can only ascertain to the fact that the public had connected two previous murders (Emma Smith and Martha Tabram) with Mary Ann's murder. A letter from Messrs. Walter & Son, sent to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, urging some reward be announced to capture the killer, was however denied.¹⁵⁶ And

¹⁵⁶ Stewart P. Evans & Keith Skinner, *The Ultimate Jack the Ripper Sourcebook: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*, London: Constable & Robinson Ltd., 2000.
Home Office 144/220/A49301, f.16.

“although the government has declined to offer a reward for the apprehension of the wretch, public-spirited residents have offered a sufficient sum to compensate any party who would capture him for his trouble. The 100 pounds contributed by Samuel Montague, M.P., for this purpose has been supplemented by 50 pounds subscribed by the police of one of the divisions. The Hebrew residents of the neighborhood have offered a substantial reward for the author of the atrocities, and have organized themselves into a vigilance committee.”¹⁵⁷ One of these “public-spirited residents” offered a reward of £500 equal to £24,000 by a Mr. J.F. Hunt, of October 6, 1888.

In addition, it would be on October 9, 1888, when a letter from Sir Charles Warren sees the light regarding the offer of -not simply a reward- but a royal pardon to any accomplices that the Ripper may have if they gave him in.

4 Whitehall Place S.W.

9th October, 1888.¹⁵⁸

Sir,

In reply to your immediate [text missing] just received on the subject of [text missing] for the information of the Secretary of State that during the last three or four days I have been coming to the conclusion that useful results would be produced by the offer of a [royal] pardon to accomplices. Among the variety of theories there is the possibility that the murderer is someone who during the daytime is sane, but who at certain periods is overtaken in his mind; and I think it possible in that case that his relatives or neighbours may possibly be aware of his peculiarities and may have gradually unwittingly slid into [the roles of accomplices].

On the other hand if it is the work of a gang in which only one actually commits the murder, the free pardon to the accomplice may make the difference of information being obtained.

As a striking commentary on this matter I have today received a letter from a person asserting himself to be an accomplice and asking for a free pardon; and I am commencing a communication with him through an advertisement in a journal. This letter is probably a hoax, for we have received scores of hoaxing letters, but on the other hand it may be a bona fide letter and if [text missing] would be to the discovery of the murderer by omitting to offer the pardon; and I cannot see what harm can be done in this or any further case by offering a pardon.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
Charles Warren

¹⁵⁷ “Leadville Daily & Evening Chronicle,” October 16, 1888.

¹⁵⁸ Stewart P. Evans & Keith Skinner, *The Ultimate Jack the Ripper Sourcebook: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*, London: Constable & Robinson Ltd., 2000.
Metropolitan Police Files, 1/55.

A month later, on November 12, 1888, the House of Commons brings into discussion the subject of a reward and royal pardon.¹⁵⁹ Mr. Graham, his constituencies in Lanarkshire North Western from 1886 to 1892, “asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he contemplates offering any additional reward for the capture of the Whitechapel murderer. The hon. Member explained that he did not ask this question from any desire to embarrass the government; but simply because considerable excitement prevailed in the East End of London.” Before the Secretary of State was requested to respond, Mr. Hunter, with his constituencies in Aberdeen North from 1885 till 1896, asked whether the Secretary had taken into consideration the propriety of extending a free pardon, “which as I understand,” Mr. Hunter said, “applies only to the last murder;” this would refer, as we see it to Kelly’s on November 9th. Mr. Hunter proceeds: “To the preceding murders, especially having regard to the fact that in the case of the first murder, committed last Christmas [1887], according to the dying testimony of the woman, several persons were concerned in the murder.”

The only murder that was slightly suspected to be connected with the Ripper -by the newspapers- and would have been in the period of 1887, was the well-known case of “Fairy Fay,” that is suspected to have been about Emma Smith who was murdered in April of 1888. There are two reports from newspapers of this particular murder that Mr. Hunter was referring to. The first of the so-called Whitechapel murders took place at Christmas [1887], when an unknown woman was found murdered near Osborne Street, Whitechapel. How she came by her death no one could say, but a certain grim horror distinguished it from ordinary murders by the fact that an iron stake was thrust into her person. It is necessary to mention this, because in the lists that appear in the morning papers she is confused with the victim of Easter Tuesday, that being Emma Smith, whose death was not caused by an iron stake, but by “repeated outrage of the worst kind.”

¹⁵⁹ Criminal Law—The Whitechapel Murders—Offer of Reward. HC Deb: 12 November 1888, Vol. 330 cc.902-4. http://hansard.millbanksystems.com/commons/1888/nov/12/criminal-law-the-whitechapel-murders#S3V0330PO_18881112_HOC_84

MUNSTER NEWS**SEPTEMBER 15, 1888.**

All the victims were women of the 'unfortunate' class, and they were of the humblest description, whose deaths, poor creatures, could scarcely, one would think, benefit any person.

The first was killed during last Christmas [1887] week, when she was found dead from a fearful wound caused by something like an iron stake being thrust through her body. All that is known of her is that she was an 'abandoned woman,' what her name was, or from whence she came remains a mystery to this day.

Early in August the residents of a lodging house found Martha Turner lying on a landing, with thirty five stabs in her body; an awful spectacle, and one that no one could account for or say how long it remained there.

Following is the response to the questions of Mr. Hunter and Mr. Graham's in regards to the governments' decision on a reward and a royal pardon by Secretary of State, Mr. Mathews.

Owing to the public interest taken in this question, I hope the House will allow me at greater length than is usual in answering a question to state why I have hitherto refrained from offering a reward in the Whitechapel cases. Before 1884 it was the frequent practice of the Home Office to offer rewards, sometimes of a very large amount, in serious cases.

In 1883, in particular, several rewards, ranging from £200 to £2,000, were offered in such cases as the murder of Police Constable Bowies and the dynamite explosions in Charles Street and at various Railway Stations. These rewards, like the reward of £10,000 in the Phoenix Park murders, proved ineffectual, and produced no evidence of any value. In 1884 there was a change of policy.

Early in that year a remarkable case occurred. A conspiracy was formed to effect an explosion at the German Embassy; to 'plant' papers upon an innocent person; and to accuse him of the crime in order to obtain the reward which was expected. The revelation of this conspiracy led the then Secretary of State (Sir William Harcourt) to reconsider the whole question of rewards. He consulted the Police Authorities both in England and in Ireland; and the conclusions he arrived at were - that the practice of

offering large and sensational rewards in cases of serious crime is not only ineffectual, but mischievous; that rewards produced, generally speaking, no practical result beyond satisfying a public demand for conspicuous action; that they operate prejudicially by relaxing the exertions of the police; and that they tend to produce false, rather than reliable testimony. - [This can also be noted of those officials leaking murder investigating evidence to the press.] - He decided, therefore, in all cases to abandon the practice of offering rewards, as they had been found by experience to be a hindrance, rather than an aid in the detection of crime.

These conclusions were publicly announced, and acted upon in two important cases in 1884 - one, a shocking murder and violation of a little girl at Middlesbrough; the other, the dynamite outrage at London Bridge, in which case the City authorities offered a reward of £5,000. The principle thus established has since been adhered to, I believe, without exception at the Home Office. The whole subject was reconsidered in 1885 by Sir Richard Cross in a remarkable case of infanticide at Plymouth; and again in 1886 by the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Edinburgh (Mr. Childers) in the notorious case of 'The Queen v. Louisa Hart.'

On both occasions, after careful consideration, and with the concurrence of the best authorities, the principle of offering no reward was maintained, and rewards were refused.

Since I have been at the Home Office I have followed the Rule thus deliberately laid down by my predecessors. I do not mean that the Rule may not be subject to exceptions - as, for instance, where it is known who the criminal is, and information is wanted only as to his hiding place, or on account of other circumstances of the crime itself. In the Whitechapel murders, not only are these conditions wanting at present, but the danger of a false charge is intensified by the excited state of public feeling.

I know how desirable it is to allay that public feeling; and I should have been glad if the circumstances had justified me in giving visible proof that the authorities are not heedless or indifferent. I beg to assure the hon. Member and the House that neither the Home Office nor Scotland Yard will leave a stone unturned in order to bring to justice the perpetrator of these abominable crimes, which have outraged the feelings of the entire community. With regard to the question of the hon. Member below the Gangway (Mr. Hunter), it is not proper that I should give an answer on the sudden. I will, however, carefully consider the question.

Mr. Hunter's question upon Margaret Hames, as we see it, was considered "not proper" to be answered. In the closure of this meeting, a Mr. Samuel Montagu of the Tower Hamlets, Whitechapel, noted that "he wished to explain why he offered a reward in the case of the last murder." Unfortunately, this was not considered to be "in order" at the time and no explanation survives today from any other source what "last murder" was referred to.

Samuel Montagu ¹⁶⁰ was a successful banker who set up the firm Samuel, Montagu & Co., as a bullion broking partnership in London in 1853, as part of the expanding market there to cope with gold from the Australian gold rush and was an original member of the fixing when it began in 1919. The company was sold to Midland Bank plc in January 1995. ¹⁶¹

The decisions on the matter in the House of Commons on November 12, 1888, was corroborated in the "Otago Witness" on November 23rd: "The Home Secretary, Mr. Matthews, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, reiterated the refusal by the government to offer a reward for the apprehension of the murderer."

The royal pardon talked of by Mr. Hunter follows:-

Murder. Pardon

Whereas, November 8 or 9, in Miller Court, Dorset Street, Spitalfields, Mary Janet Kelly was murdered by some person or persons unknown, the Secretary of State will advise the grant of her Majesty's gracious pardon to any accomplice, not being the person who contrived or actually committed the murder, who shall give such information and evidence as shall lead to the discovery and conviction of the person or persons who committed the murder.

(Signed) CHARLES WARREN
The Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis
Metropolitan Police Office
4, Whitehall-place, S.W.
November 10. [1888]

It would be interesting to know how the police would have managed, at least with the Nichols murder, to charge the Ripper if he was caught. There was absolutely no

¹⁶⁰ (b.1832-d.1911).

¹⁶¹ Andy Donaldson: "Samuel, Montagu & Co."

<http://www.underprints.com/Philately/ProtectiveOverprintsAndUnderprints/UserPages/SamuelMontagu/SamuelMontagu.htm>

evidence found upon or around Mary Ann that could be directed to any individual and so charge them with her death. If the case had been taken to trial, then a contortion of a trial would have been witnessed. Even the president of the Whitechapel Vigilance Committee was inclined to offer some reward for the Ripper's capture. He received a letter from the Home Secretary stating his inability to advise the Queen that "the ends of justice would be promoted by the offer of a reward on the part of the government for the discovery of the perpetrator of the recent murders at the East end. During the last few nights the streets of Whitechapel have been patrolled by a large number of civilians as by the police."¹⁶² But even more surprisingly, almost a year later, on July 18, 1889, the discussion in the House of Commons on offering a reward accompanied by a pardon for the arrest of the Ripper was still being debated. This, after Sir Warren's signed grant for a royal pardon in November of the year 1888.

Notice the debate below how Mr. Montague refers to a reward and a royal pardon, but Mr. Matthews just responds to the reward, disregarding in his answer the royal pardon entirely.

THE WHITECHAPEL MURDERS

*HC Deb 18 July 1889 vol 338 cc730-1 730*¹⁶³

MR. MONTAGU (Tower Hamlets, Whitechapel) I beg to ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether he will offer a substantial reward, accompanied by a free pardon, to anyone not in the police force and not the actual perpetrator of the recent crime in Whitechapel who will give such information as will lead to the conviction of the murderer; and whether he will sufficiently increase the number of detectives so as to prevent, if possible, further atrocities in East London?

MR. MATTHEWS I have consulted the Commissioner of Police, and he informs me that he has no reason to believe that the offer of a reward now would be productive of any good result, and he does not recommend any departure from the policy resolved on last year, and fully explained by me to the House. Since the occurrence of the outrages in the East End, a large number of men in plain clothes have been employed there, and I yesterday

¹⁶² "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: Daily News, Oct 8, 1888. Accessed 2014.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

¹⁶³ HC Deb 18 July 1889 vol 338 cc730-1 730. Accessed 2014.
http://hansard.millbanksystems.com/commons/1889/jul/18/the-whitechapel-murders#S3V0338PO_18890718_HOC_141

sanctioned an arrangement for still further increasing the number of detectives available for duty in Whitechapel.

We now enter Mary Ann Nichols's final moments.

August 30, 1888, a fire breaks out at Shadwell Dry Dock around 21:00, and had most of East End's police force away from Whitechapel to manage and control the crowd. The police do not tell us where Mary Ann was or what she was doing, as all her activity this day was kept from the public; but within 24 hours, another horrendous fire breaks out at a liquor warehouse in the South and Spirit Quay of the Pool of London. Police are now working overtime and away from their usual patrol schedules.

It was consequential the streets would be "unusually quiet that night," ¹⁶⁴ with Mary Ann suspected to be looking for clients. She could not have encountered many people due to the distraction of the fires at the docks, and this would explain why there were not many witness accounts on her whereabouts. An hour before the day changes, the cutting of supply gas for streetlamps begins; this is standard-practice followed by the church bells ringing out to inform all residents that the alleys and streets are now ready to plunge into dimness, if not into complete darkness.

At 23:00, Mary Ann is seen "walking the Whitechapel Road" suspected of prostituting herself for money. We do not know with certainty if she did find clients, nor who it was that reported her going down the road which diminished into dimness. According to police reports, Mary Ann is then seen at the *Frying Pan* pub at 13, Brick Lane; what time she entered, who she talked to in the establishment, or who reported seeing her, is unknown.

According to the Licensing Act 1872 ¹⁶⁵ the enforced closing times in towns for public houses was at midnight; it was an hour earlier in country areas. Since this was a very unpopular Act, especially for the working classes, a number of scuffles broke out with the police officer whenever he tried to enforce closing hours. Whether the brewers or owners of the pubs quietly closed the front doors on time can be debated.

¹⁶⁴ Walter Purkiss's testimony, September 17, 1888.

¹⁶⁵ ©Crown copyright: Licensing Act 1872, Chapter 94, 35 and 36 Victorian.
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Vict/35-36/94>

We have to assume that Mary Ann spent all her money she had earned that day at the *Frying Pan* pub; so when she's seen leaving the pub at 00:30, she's got three options to consider: (1) Find a Jack to pay for her lodgings; (2) persuade the doss keeper to lend her some sleeping space; or (3), sleep under the twilight. We are told that Mary Ann did not find a Jack to pay for her lodgings, because at 01:40 she's spotted in the kitchen of 18, Thrawl Street (Wilmott's lodging-house) where she no longer lived at, since she had moved to Flower & Dean Street a week earlier. We are also told she was refused lodgings at this point, due to the lack of money.

Common kitchen scene in a lodging-house in the East End
Sketched by J.R. Brown in 1886



Why Mary Ann was seen or why did she choose a lodging that night in Thrawl Street instead of the White House lodging-house in Flower & Dean Street, can only be accounted on the fact that she was not known in Flower & Dean Street and had

more chances of being understood or sympathized with in Thrawl Street. It seems Mary Ann chose to go with option #2 to try and persuade the doss keeper to lend her some space to sleep; but, human sympathy (or care) was not shown this night. Variables wanted her on the streets.

The account of Mary Ann talking in the kitchen about her “pretty bonnet” and how she would be going out and attracting more clients with her new hat on, was Whitechapelese created by the newspapers ¹⁶⁶ to add more saucy matter on her lifestyle in their report. This event was never recorded -to be corroborated- in any police official report.

¹⁶⁶ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: London Times, Sept 1, 1888 and the Echo, Sept 1, 1888.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

We don't exactly know what conversation took place in the Thrawl Street kitchen lodging-house nor who she talks to; but when Mary Ann leaves the place at 01:40, she still has three options to choose from, but is not spotted again going to any other pub since they close at midnight or thereabouts. But some pubs did not close, and we have testimony telling us this. James Mumford, the horse-slaughterer, gave an interview printed in the "Echo" newspaper on September 4, 1888. James Mumford noted that sometimes his fellow workers would go to drink at the *Grave Maurice* pub, just a minute from the gateway of Essex Wharf where Mary Ann's body was found. He was asked at what time this usually is, and James Mumford told the reporter it would be "about twenty minutes after twelve [midnight when] they usually start" drinking. The reporter, astonished, answered: "But the house closes then, does it not?" The reply from James Mumford was "no, not till half-past. They go there and have their refreshment, and bring me some back. I am not supposed to leave the place, and I don't do so. They take a crust of bread and cheese with them, and if they haven't time to eat it in the house [pub] they keep outside and have a blow."

Remember that this License Act was very unpopular to the working class; if the owner of a pub felt the jingling coins on his callous hands from workers, then they would have little resistance to keep their establishment open, secretly or not. In addition, some police officers at the time were not clean enough, making it exceptionally difficult to establish with certainty that they were not paid to look the other way.

Mary Ann is next spotted (70 minutes later) at 02:30 on the corner of Osborn Street and Whitechapel Road; she was "going in the direction of Buck's Row," stated the witness Mrs. Oram. But this testimony is misleading. Unless the witness had her eyes on Mary Ann the entire time, and actually saw her turn into Buck's Row, it is a hypothesis that Mary Ann was going in that direction when she could have entered any of the fifteen pubs along the way -late to close or secretly open against the law- which makes Mrs. Oram's testimony, hearsay.

Below are the public houses (fifteen in total) that one would pass (or enter) beginning from the corner of Osborn Street up to Brady Street:-

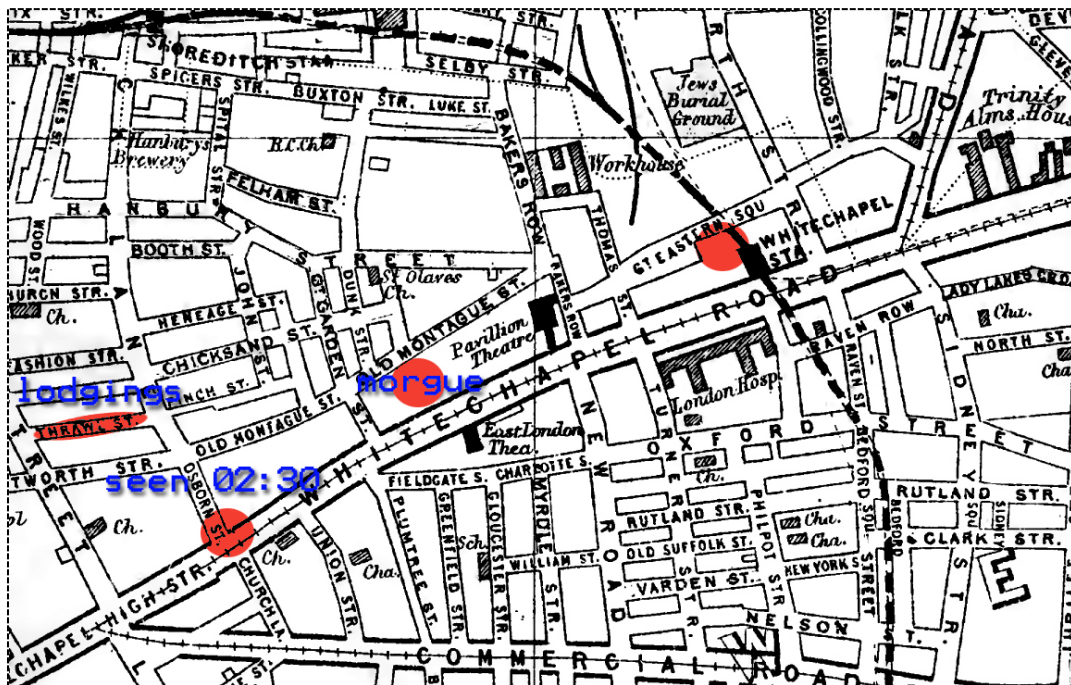
- 1) “St. Mary’s Distillery Public House” on the corner of Osborn Street is Feldmen’s Post Office at No. 2. Turning into Whitechapel Road, and remaining on the left side, at Nos. 2,3, is St. Mary’s Distillery Public House also known as the *Angel & Crown* pub; it was destroyed during the Blitz and never rebuilt.¹⁶⁷
- 2) Nags Head Public House passing Nags Yard, at Nos. 9,10. In 1822, the pub was called the *Nags Head & Woolpack*.
- 3) King’s Arms Public House passing Size Yard and at No. 29. In 1910, the pub changed its venue to Nos. 53, 55. The pub was demolished and all that remains is an alleyway called Kings Head Court.
- 4) Old George Public House located at No. 275 (across the road). The pub ceased to operate by 1912 turning into a photographic studio.
- 5) Dolphin Public House located at No. 50 on the corner of Great Garden Street. The pub was demolished in 1934.
- 6) Ye Olde Blue Anchor Public House located at No. 68.
- 7) Royal Oak Public House located at No. 220 (across the road). The pub closed down in the 1990s.
- 8) Dukes Head Public House located at No. 79 also known as the *Duke of Cumberland*.
- 9) Earl of Aberdeen Public House located at No. 209 (across the road). The pub was closed down in 1934.
- 10) Black Bull Public House passing Baker’s Row at No. 95.
- 11) Red Lion Public House located at No. 103.
- 12) Star & Garter Public House located at No. 110.
- 13) Grave Maurice Public House located at No. 128. The pub was about a minute walk from the gateway of Essex Wharf¹⁶⁸ where Mary Ann’s body was found.
- 14) Lord Nelson Public House located at No. 145.

¹⁶⁷ Whitechapel in the East End of London: The pub history in London. Accessed 2014.
<http://pubshistory.com/Whitechapel/Whitechapel.shtml>

¹⁶⁸ James Mumford’s story with reporters from the “Echo,” September 4, 1888.

15) Queen's Head Public House located at No. 154.

In addition to the above pubs, there was a so-called “Penny Show” which carried on at the premises of Nos. 106, 107 on Whitechapel Road, at the corner with Thomas Street and Court Street, a short distance walk from Buck’s Row. This entertaining establishment must not be confused with the Pavillion Theatre which was located at Nos. 191, 192, and 193, Whitechapel Road. The “Penny Show” establishment, rented by showman Tom Norman, gave public shows or exhibitions; one such exhibition was Joseph Carey Merrick’s ¹⁶⁹ also known as “The Elephant Man.” In 1888, attention was brought to the Committee of the Board of Works to resolve “the nuisance carried on upon the premises, and that the Solicitor of the Board be instructed to give notice to the persons engaged in carrying on such nuisance of the intention to proceed, and to obtain the necessary powers for the purpose forthwith.” ¹⁷⁰



Map source: Dickens (Jr.), *Dickens's Dictionary of London*, 1879.

¹⁶⁹ (b.1862-d.1890)

¹⁷⁰ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: East End News, Nov 2, 1888.

http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

Common sense tells us the witness Mrs. Oram must have lost sight of Mary Ann among the other pedestrians on the long Whitechapel Road. If it took Mrs. Oram to lose sight of the victim within 1 or 2 minutes, the latter “staggering” at a slow pace, it would take Mary Ann about 11 to 14 minutes from Osborn Street to reach Buck’s Row -if that is where she directly went- arriving at the logical time of 02:40 (or 02:45) in the Buck’s Row vicinity. Yet, no witness materialized through the centuries to corroborate Mary Ann’s whereabouts from 02:40 (or 02:45) until an hour later, when her body is found lying on the ground, at 03:30 (or 03:45) in Buck’s Row. It is from 02:30 and onwards when Mary Ann totally vanishes, even though she was seen going eastward towards Buck’s Row where P.C. Neil, whose beat was in that area - including Sergeant Kirby’s- should have noticed her.

They did not.

Whitechapel Police beats on August 31, 1888

Constable Neil:	Buck’s Row (12 minute cycle)
Constable Thain:	Brady Street and junction of Buck’s Row (12 minute cycle)
Constable Mizen:	Junction of Hanbury Street and Baker’s Row (12 minute cycle)
Sergeant Kirby:	Buck’s Row (12 minute cycle)
Constable:	Whitechapel Road

There is a suspected witness that is not much talked of as reported in the “Echo” newspaper, on September 1, 1888. The report goes into the “statement of John Morgan, a coffee-stall keeper, who says that a woman, whose description answers to that given to him of the victim, [Nichols,] called at his stall (three minute walk from Buck’s Row) early yesterday morning. [August 31st.] She was accompanied by a man whom she addressed as Jim. They appeared as if they had had a quarrel. The woman did all she could to pacify him. This morning [September 1st] our reporter had an interview with Mr. John Morgan, at the house where he lodges, 62, Oxford Street, near Bethnal Green Road. He said: ‘It was half-past three or a quarter to four o’clock yesterday morning, when a woman, whom I knew was an immoral character, came to my stall and a man was with her. I am to-day to go to the mortuary before the inquest and see if I can identify her as the one who came there. Well, she was with a man,

like a labourer, between 5ft. 4in. and 5ft. 6in. in height, with dark hair and short beard. He and the woman had words. Having had a cup of tea the woman said, *Come on, Jim, let's get home*. Then they went away, and I did not think anything more of the occurrence until I heard of this dreadful affair at Buck's Row, near where it was. My stall is at the corner of Cambridge Heath Road. I have seen the woman several times, and could therefore identify her if she is the one I fancy it is. I did not hear any screams; at least, nothing to speak of.” The substantial continuation on this story, is that Morgan, upon arriving at the mortuary to identify Nichols, “said he did not think it was the same woman, but was not sure. The woman, if it was the same, had grown thinner in the face.” ¹⁷¹

No one then for certain sees Mary Ann return to Thrawl Street to ask for a lodging, making it a suspected positive fact, that she did not find a client. No one sees her go back to the common lodging-house in Flower & Dean Street, making it a suspected positive fact, that she avoided this area. No one sees her return to the *Frying Pan* pub, making it a suspected positive fact, that the pub had closed at 00:30. Surely Mary Ann could not be wandering around Buck's Row.

So where was Mary Ann hiding, if you will, from 02:30 till 03:30 (or 03:45) before suddenly materializing on the ground in Buck's Row, is a question no one has been able to answer, going by the police reports. Theories are many. Mary Ann wasn't seen in the Buck's Row vicinity, or the police would have spotted her. She wasn't seen in any pub, or some witness would have come forward. She didn't return to the lodgings in Thrawl Street, or witnesses would have told the police. So where did she go for a crucial 1 hour and 10-15 minutes? This window of unaccounted time has never been explained; but there can be no doubt that during this unaccounted time, Mary Ann was accosted, taken to the murder scene, killed, mutilated, and then dumped in Buck's Row. The evidence that she was killed in Buck's Row is circumstantial, to say the least.

Since Mary Ann was not seen going to where she had moved to a week earlier (Flower & Dean Street), it makes it a very interesting area to ponder on. At least three

¹⁷¹ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: Echo, Sept 1, 1888.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

other streets -Fashion Street, Thrawl Street, and Wentworth Street- in Whitechapel had the identical living conditions. “Black and noisome, the road sticky with slime, and palsied houses, rotten from chimney to cellar, leaning together, apparently by the mere coherence of their ingrained corruption. Dark, silent, uneasy shadows passing and crossing -human vermin in this reeking sink, like goblin exhalations from all that is noxious around. Women with sunken, black-rimmed eyes, whose pallid faces appear and vanish by the light of an occasional gas-lamp, and look so like ill-covered skulls that we start at their stare. Horrible London? Yes.” ¹⁷²

Apart from Mary Ann, two other Ripper victims stayed in Flower & Dean Street; they were Elizabeth Stride living at No. 32 and Catherine Eddowes living at No. 55, which was very close to where Mary Ann stayed at No. 55-56. The street also held the “Rothschild Buildings,” erected by the Four Per Cent Industrial Dwellings Company Ltd., in 1886. ¹⁷³ A contemporary geographic profile was established in a 2006 documentary, entitled: *Jack the Ripper the First Serial Killer Revealed*. The documentary focused on the given areas where all five canonical Ripper victims were found, and established the Ripper -to some degree- had resided either in Fashion Street, Flower & Dean Street, and/or Thrawl Street; the most probable location being Flower & Dean Street. The “East London Advertiser” newspaper, on November 10, 1888, reported that the population in this area was “a migratory one,” with “40 lodging-houses in the neighbourhood accommodating 4,000 souls.”

Did someone threaten Mary Ann to stay away from Flower & Dean Street on August 31, 1888? It is doubtful she would stay away just because she was warned; women with her caliber and stamina were trained to take risks. It is also doubtful she would have stayed away because she had been evicted some days earlier, because women in her situation had to try and try again to get a place to sleep; if not, it was under the twinkling stars for the night. Some strong motive (which we cannot uncover) kept Mary Ann Nichols away from her lodgings at Flower & Dean Street, and sly variables worked towards her remaining on the streets that night where she is suspected to have spent all her money at the pub.

¹⁷² Arthur G. Morrison. *The Palace Journal: Whitechapel*, 1889.

¹⁷³ Jerry White, *Rothschild Buildings: Life in an East-End Tenement Block 1887-1920*, Pimlico, 2003.

Unsuccessful in finding some other client from 00:30, Mary Ann is refused lodgings at Thrawl Street; the witness Mrs. Oram did not offer to share a bed with her; she only “requested her to return with her to the lodging-house” according to Inspector Abberline’s Report.¹⁷⁴ It is doubtful Mrs. Oram tried to persuade Mary Ann to lodge with her at that point; how many women of their class paid for each other’s lodgings? It was bad enough to provide for one’s self let alone for someone else. But when someone is murdered in an atrocious fashion as Mary Ann Nichols was, there always crops up from the woodworks a so-called Samaritan who wanted to do good for that person, but alas, they did not listen and look what happened to them.

Every individual who gave an account to the newspapers in regards to seeing, hearing, protecting, and sympathizing with Mary Ann Nichols before she was murdered, were only getting their name in a spotlight of a newspaper column due to the money reporters/editors were paying these people. We should only keep ten percent of the information they were giving as being truthful. And even then, add a pinch of salt to it.

“As always happens in such cases, so many people were eager to give information. The majority were well-meaning enough, but some notoriety seekers made statements which were patently untrue, with no other object than to get their names into the newspapers. I have never been able to understand the mentality of such people. Our job was big enough in all conscience without having to waste time exploring false clues.”

—Former police officer Walter Dew.¹⁷⁵

Theories? The police at the time had a theory that a sort of “high rip” gang existed in the neighbourhood, which, blackmailing women of the “unfortunate” class, takes vengeance on those who do not find money for them.¹⁷⁶ The police based that

¹⁷⁴ Stewart P. Evans & Keith Skinner, *The Ultimate Jack the Ripper Sourcebook: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*, London: Constable & Robinson Ltd., 2000.

Public Record Office, Metropolitan Police, 3/140 ff.242-56.

¹⁷⁵ Walter Dew, *I Caught Crippen*, (London: Blackie & Son, Ltd., 1938).

¹⁷⁶ *Chronicles of Crime & Criminals*, (Toronto: Beaver Publishing, 1895).

surmise on the fact that within twelve months two other women were murdered in the district, those being Emma Smith and Martha Tabram.

EVENING NEWS

AUGUST 31, 1888.

The officers engaged in the case are pushing their inquiries in the neighbourhood as to the doings of certain gangs known to frequent these parts, and an opinion is gaining ground amongst them that the murderers are the same who committed the two previous murders near the same spot. It is believed that these gangs, who make their appearance during the early hours of the morning, are in the habit of blackmailing these poor unfortunate creatures, and when their demands are refused, violence follows, and in order to avoid their deeds being brought to light they put away their victims.

They have been under the observation of the police for some time past, and it is believed that with the prospect of a reward and a free pardon, some of them might be persuaded to turn Queen's evidence, when some startling revelations might be expected.

Another theory established around this time was that Mary Ann had been "mistaken for another woman, and was murdered from motives of jealousy."¹⁷⁷ This motive of jealousy theory could certainly be acceptable for her former husband, William Nichols, probably in 1882 when he testified that he had Mary Ann "watched." It was not uncommon for cases of mistaken identity to occasionally occur in the Victorian era, where "people often bear an astonishing resemblance to each other, and this similarity has sometimes been sorely perplexing and misleading to the detective. It is on record in the archives of Scotland Yard that a twin brother was once arrested, but he happened to be the wrong twin, and brought an action for false imprisonment. There was, too, the case of a wooden-legged man who lived in a court -a cul de sac- and who was, one might think, easily to be identified; but when arrested he protested his innocence, saying, - 'Yes, I know you want a wooden-legged man; but you see I've lost my right leg, and the man you want has lost his left. He

¹⁷⁷ "Casebook: Jack the Ripper," Press Reports: Echo, Aug 31, 1888.
http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

lives next door to me up our court, and I saw him come home tonight. If you go to his house you'll get him.' And sure enough the right - that is to say, the left -wooden-legged man was found.” ¹⁷⁸

On Thursday, September 6, 1888, a pair-horsed closed hearse “was observed making its way down Hanbury Street and the crowds, which numbered some thousands, made way for it to go along Old Montague Street, but instead of doing so it passed on into the Whitechapel Road, and, doubling back, entered the mortuary by the back gate, which is situated in Chapman’s Court.” ¹⁷⁹ There, Mary Ann Nichols was placed in the hearse and taken for burial.

DAILY NEWS

SEPTEMBER 27, 1888.

A little way down out of the public-house glare, and Buck’s Row looks to be a singularly desolate out-of-the region. But there is a piano organ grinding out the “Men of Harlech” over the spot where the murdered woman [Nichols] was found; women and girls are freely coming and going through the darkness.

In order for Mary Ann Nichols’s murder to have been committed, by a person or persons unknown, as surmised by Coroner Baxter, three elements had to have been present:-

- (1) The opportunity to have approached her.
- (2) The means to do this, which begins from the character of the individual, to the possessing of the weapon and having the physical strength.
- (3) Having the motive to kill her and so display her dead body for public viewing.

¹⁷⁸ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: The Star, Sept 28, 1894.

http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

¹⁷⁹ “Casebook: Jack the Ripper,” Press Reports: East London Advertiser, Sept 8, 1888.

http://www.casebook.org/press_reports/

There are three groups of suspected suspects which bound to these three elements; those having the opportunity, the means, including the motive to kill Mary Ann Nichols.

ONE

A very weak suspected suspect is the mysterious man with the *nom de guerre* “Jack the Ripper,” who even if caught, no criminal trial would have accomplished finding him guilty of the murder due to the lack of evidence against him. He had opportunity to accost Mary Ann, but there is no evidence that he had the means and motive to kill her.

TWO

Weaker suspected suspects is a group of officials who, though had the authority and capability to manipulate the crime location and also reconstruct the time of the crime -and also had the opportunity and means to accost Mary Ann- there exists no evidence as to the motive to kill her.

THREE

Finally, we have very strong suspected suspects in a group of nondescript individuals living and breathing in the area, but not necessarily tied to any particular gang. They very easily can accost the victim, and any other canonical victim for that matter, kill them, stage the body in the so-called crime scene area, offer circumstantial evidence to reporters and police, and give hearsay testimony at the inquests to confuse the authorities. The motive for this group to act against the law is tremendously strong; not only to take revenge for the Bloody Sunday riots a year earlier, and so smear the police and the officials and also gain Sir Charles Warren’s resignation, but also to create a spotlight on the East End that had become “a shocking place; an evil plexus of slums that hide human creeping things; where filthy

men and women live on gin, where collars and clean shirts are decencies unknown, where every citizen wears a black eye, and none ever combs his hair.”¹⁸⁰

Yet, which individual(s) mentioned above actually murdered Mary Ann Nichols, cannot be ascertained. What we have accomplished, by following the official reports and avoiding the picking-of-evidence factor to form a particular theory, is leave an open door for our readers to form their own opinion on this elusive individual coined “Jack the Ripper.”

We will meet again in the Annie Chapman case.

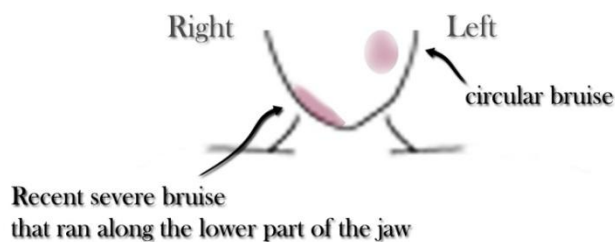
TO BE CONTINUED. . .

¹⁸⁰ Arthur Morrison's *Tales of Mean Streets*.

COMPLETE FORENSIC REPORT ON MARY ANN “POLLY” NICHOLS

Sources: Inspector Spratling Report (August 31, 1888)
Daily Telegraph and Daily News (September 1, 1888)
Lloyd's Weekly (September 2, 1888)
The Times (September 3, 1888)

FACE INJURIES



--Inflicted by blow of a fist
--Inflicted by thumb pressure

--Circular bruise: Inflicted by pressure of the fingers

NECK INJURIES

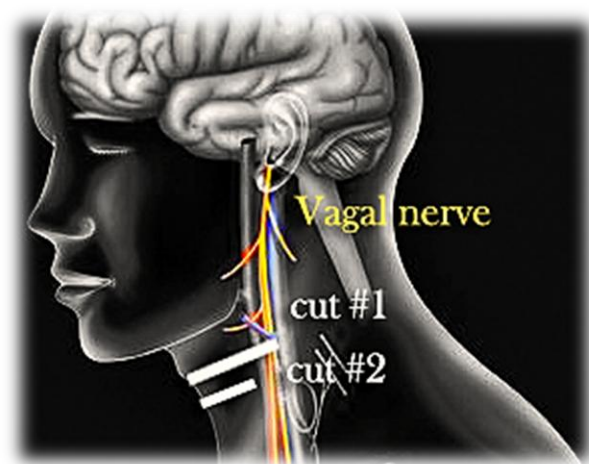


THROAT WOUNDS

Cut #1: One inch below the jaw
Incision of four inches
Runs from a point immediately below the ear

Cut #2: One inch below
Commencing about one inch in front
A circular incision (8 inches long)
Terminates at a point about three inches below the right jaw

Vagal nerve: Minor trauma or relatively simple and harmless peripheral stimulation to the vagus nerve could cause sudden death to occur within seconds or a minute. When death results from vagal inhibition, there are no characteristic postmortem appearances. The cause of death can be inferred only by exclusion of other pathological conditions, and from the accurate observations by reliable witnesses, concerning the circumstance of death.



To show how serious trauma can accidentally be inflicted to the vagus nerve, “a soldier was dancing with his girl friend in the presence of many others in a hall. While dancing, he playfully ‘tweaked’ (pinched) her neck. She dropped down dead on the spot. There were no injuries or signs of asphyxia. Death was as a result of vagal inhibition.” ¹⁸¹

ABDOMINAL WOUNDS

Inspector Spratling’s Report (August 31, 1888)



ABDOMEN: Left side	ABDOMEN: Right side
<p>2-3 inches from this side a wound running in a jagged manner</p> <p>--Deep</p> <p>--Tissues cut through</p>	<p>The <i>Evening News</i> of September 3rd gave some details how the abdomen was “turned over from left to right and the intestines exposed.” This sight apparently made Inspector Spratling ill when he saw it.</p>

Several (“seven”) incisions (cuts/stabs) running across
 3-4 cuts running downwards
 No detection of alcohol in the stomach

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¹⁸¹ <http://www.vnsmessagelboard.com/index.php?topic=4219.0>

MARY ANN “POLLY” NICHOLS

TIMELINE

DATE/TIME	EVENT	NOTE
1845	Birth	
1864	Marriage with William Nichols	
1866	Birth of Edward John	First born
1868	Birth of Percy George	Second child born
1870	Birth of Alice Esther	Third child born
1877	Birth of Eliza Sarah	Fourth child born
1879	Birth of Henry Alfred	Fifth child born
1881	Separation from William Nichols	
1882	William Nichols has Mary Ann followed	
	Lambeth Workhouse till 1883	
1883	Lambeth Infirmary	
	Living with her father in Camberwell	
	Living with Thomas Dew (or Drew) till 1887	
1886	Attends funeral of her brother	
1888		
April	Lambeth Workhouse	
April 17	A letter sent to her father	
July 12	Left employment	Wandsworth
August 30		
	Mary Ann’s activities withheld from the public	
21:00	A fire breaks out at the Shadwell Dry Dock	
23:00	Seen “walking the Whitechapel Road”	
August 31		
?	A fire breaks out at the South & Spirit Quay	
00:00-04:00	Dr. Bond’s estimated time of death	
12:30	Mary Ann seen leaving the Frying Pan pub	
01:40	Seen at 18, Thrawl Street	
02:30	Mrs. Oram suspected to have seen Mary Ann	Corner of Osborne Street and Whitechapel Road
02:35-03:20	Mary Ann Nichols vanishes	
03:15	P.C. Neil walks opposite the horse-slaughtering premises of Harrison, Barber & Co., Ltd.	South side of Winthrop Street
	Sergeant Kirby passes Buck’s Row	
03:20-03:30	Mr. Cross leaves home for work	
03:26-03:36	Mr. Cross arrives at Buck’s Row	
03:30	P.C. Neil walks his round in Buck’s Row	
	Sergeant Kirby passes Buck’s Row	
	The 3.7 train out from New Cross passes	

03:40-04:10	Dr. Llewellyn's estimated time of death	
03:40	Mr. Cross finds the body in Buck's Row	Inspector Abberline's Report
03:45	Mr. Paul leaves home for work	
	P.C. Neil finds the body in Buck's Row	
	Mr. Paul is approached by Mr. Cross	Chief Inspector Swanson's Report
?	P.C. Mizen approached by Cross and Paul	
	P.C. Thain arrives at Buck's Row	
03:49	Mr. Paul and Mr. Cross leave Buck's Row	Coroner's assumption
03:55-04:00	P.C. Thain arrives at Dr. Llewellyn's surgery	
04:10	Dr. Llewellyn arrives at Buck's Row	
04:15	P.C. Mizen approached by Cross and Paul	Constable's testimony
04:20	Henry Tomkins sees Dr. Llewellyn examining the body in Buck's Row	
04:41	Mr. Mulshaw arrives at Buck's Row	Sees Dr. Llewellyn still there
04:41-04:49	Body transferred to the mortuary	Accompanied by Sergeant Kirby, P.C. Neil, and another colleague of H-Division (no name given)
04:50	Inspector Spratling arrives at Buck's Row	Heard of the murder at 04:30 in Hackney Road, a 20 minute walk from Buck's Row
04:56	Body arrives at the mortuary	
04:57	Inspector Spratling arrives at the mortuary	
05:00	Robert Mann opens the mortuary	Mortuary assistant
05:12	Sunrise	
05:30	Inspector Spratling arrives at Dr. Llewellyn's surgery	
05:40	Dr. Llewellyn reexamines the body at the mortuary	Returns with Inspector Spratling
05:50	Dr. Llewellyn completes 2nd examination at the mortuary	
06:00	Mr. Mann locks the mortuary	Leaves for breakfast
06:30	Mr. Mann returns to the mortuary	Accompanied by James Hatfield a mortuary assistant
08:00-09:00	Inspector Helson arrives at the mortuary	
?	Mr. Paul gives an interview to the press	Lloyd's Weekly
12:00	Inspector Spratling returns to the mortuary	Checks victim's clothes
?	Inspector Spratling writes his report	
September 1		
10:00	Dr. Llewellyn performs a complete post-mortem	Mr. Seccombe assisting
13:00	First day of the inquest	
September 2	Mr. Paul's interview published	Lloyd's Weekly
September 3	Second day of the inquest	
September 6	Burial	
September 7	Inspector Helson writes his report	
September 8	Chapman murder	
September 17	Third day of the inquest	
	Dr. Llewellyn recalled	

	Suspected fake “Dear Boss” letter written	Discovered by Peter McClelland in 1988
September 19	Inspector Abberline writes his report	
September 22	Fourth and final day of the inquest	
September 25	Suspected original “Dear Boss” letter written	
September 30	Stride murder	
	Eddowes murder	
October 1	Suspected original “Dear Boss” letter published	Daily News
October 4	Suspected original “Dear Boss” letter published	Evening News
October 9	Sir Warren’s letter to the Home Office	In regards to a reward and Royal Pardon
October 19	Chief Inspector Swanson writes his report	
November 9	Kelly murder	
November 10	Dr. Bond’s profile report	
	Sir Warren signs a granted Royal Pardon	
November 12	House of Commons discusses for a reward and Royal Pardon	